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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 112 — NO. 34, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

# PFPD buys building

## Board of directors reorganized

By John Finefrock  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) has purchased the building at 165 N. Pagosa Blvd. for \$568,500.

The building will ultimately house the PFPD's administration and provide more space for operations at Station 1.

On May 8, the PFPD Board of Directors met via Zoom for a special meeting to approve a resolution that authorizes lease-purchase financing for the building.

Lease-purchase financing is not considered a long-term debt, as it is renewed every year, the resolution notes.

"No provisions of this Resolution, the Ground Lease, or the

■ See PFPD A8



Bees are happy that spring has sprung and trees are blooming in Pagosa Country.

Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

# High school to hold virtual, drive-in graduation for class of 2020

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The class of 2020 is setting itself apart as the class of COVID-19, and Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS) seniors are no different.

This year's graduating class won't gather with family and friends in the school's gym to celebrate their achievements, class history and look to the future at the end of the month like they'd originally planned.

Instead, the class of 2020's graduation will be a virtual one that will be viewed on May 30 in the style of a drive-in movie.

"The virtual graduation will allow us to incorporate many of the traditional components of a PSHS graduation ceremony," a letter to

■ Graduation A8

# PSMC receives protective equipment donations

By David Bruzzese and Angela Wirth  
Special to The SUN

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) last week received deliveries of donated personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) and the MakerLab at the Powerhouse in Durango.

The CHA, working with Angel Flight West to fly medical supplies to different areas in Colorado, generously delivered isolation gowns, N95 masks, boot and shoe covers, and disinfectant solution.

MakerLab volunteers, who are manufacturing PPE for communities and hospitals in the Four Corners, delivered face shields, an intubation box and powered air purifying respirators (PAPR). PAPR units are worn by hospital caregivers and mechanically filter the air they breathe. They are considered the gold standard for protecting front-line workers who may be exposed to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

"All of us at PSMC sincerely ap-

■ See Donations A8



Photos courtesy Angela Wirth  
**Pagosa Springs Medical Center receives donated personal protective equipment from the Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) and the MakerLab at the Powerhouse in Durango.** The CHA, working with Angel Flight West to fly medical supplies to different areas in Colorado, delivered isolation gowns, N95 masks, boot and shoe covers, and disinfectant solution.



# Ahead of the curve? Local business owners looking for a variance from public health orders

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A group of local business owners is looking to local governments to apply for a variance from the state's Safer at Home orders.

According to agenda documentation for the Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting that took place on Wednesday, May 13, businesses that are not yet open due to public health orders — including but not limited to restaurants, gyms, pools, spas, campgrounds and RV parks — are requesting that they be able to open.

Agenda documentation explains that counties can apply for a variance with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for an alternative plan.

Both Eagle County and Mesa

County have applied for similar variances and have been approved, agenda documentation notes.

Archuleta County must be the applicant, and the variance request must include an alternative suppression plan for COVID-19 that is endorsed by San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) and adopted by the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) must also verify that it has the capacity to serve those needing its care, according to council agenda documentation.

One of those business owners requesting to be able to open, Jason Cox of Riff Raff Brewing Company, explained in an interview on Tuesday that this petition came about as

■ See Variance A8

# COVID-19 case count

The following information was current as of press time Wednesday.

**San Juan Basin Public Health data:**  
Total confirmed cases in Archuleta and La Plata counties: 75  
Archuleta County: 8  
La Plata County: 67

**Deaths: 1 (La Plata County)**  
**Recovered: 43**  
**Hospitalized: 10**

**Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment data:**  
Total confirmed cases: 20,157  
Deaths: 1,009  
Hospitalized: 3,695

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# Opinion

## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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### SUN STAFF

**Publisher/Editor**

Terri House, editor@pagosasun.com

**Assistant Editor**

Randi Pierce, randi@pagosasun.com

**Reporters**

Chris Mannara, chris@pagosasun.com

John Finefrock, john@pagosasun.com

**Advertising and Circulation Manager**

Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

**Head Pressman**

Robert Penton

**Assistant Pressman**

Lawrence Castolena

**Mailroom Staff**

William Thomas

Lawrence Castolena

**Classified Advertising/Front Office**

Missy Phelan, classads@pagosasun.com

Shana Young-Gawdun, classads@pagosasun.com

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## EDITORIAL

# What's been hardest for you during the pandemic?

Last week, we asked SUN readers and Facebook friends, "What's been hardest for you during the pandemic?"

The following is an unedited continuation of what they had to share:

**Jeanelle Marie Wychesit:** "Trying to survive the constantly changing information, and seeing how just about everyone keeps coming up with 'sides' and acting out of fear of the unknown. Feeling like I am alone not only because of social distancing, and working and schooling from home, but because I feel alone in my thinking about everything surrounding the pandemic. And celebrating, as its such a huge part of my joy in life."

**Lee Sanchez Eden:** "Being in a job for so many years practicing infection control... Seeing the public out there feeling like they're protecting themselves or NOT when they really are not. Such a lack of information that could be shared on the news rather than all the horrible statistics over and over and over."

**Michele Langianese:** "Not being able to go to Moab to see my Dad who is in the Canyonlands Care Center...he is 99 & will be 100 this August so I hope that I will be able to celebrate his birthday with him in person!"

**Karen Kocurek Lindner:** "I miss my students! I'm so sad we didn't get a proper goodbye and see ya next fall set of hugs and high fives!"

**Melissa McDonald:** "Having to rely on others to do what I want to do myself... groceries, etc."

**Krissy Gardikis:** "I miss socializing with my friends and the fact that I can't go see my 85 yr old mother in Utah."

**Sean Poore:** "Trying to not gain 200 pounds and become an alcoholic."

**Veronica Pinnecoose:** "Watching people remain divisive, and grow even more insulting and self-focused, when this is a time when we should forget our differences and come together. Also, watching all the naysayers come up with their own denials and theories to minimize the situation while watching friends struggle to deal with the real impact it has had on their lives because they are facing an undeniable reality. I had a hope that this is what would finally draw us together as a nation, but instead there is so much divisiveness. Is there any hope left for humanity?"

**Jackie Gulotta Weber:** "Having to can-

cel my trip to Canada to see my brother, who has a very aggressive brain tumor; not being able to see my youngest graduate; and not being able to see my adorable grandbaby turn 2."

**Kara Short:** "Senior year! My youngest daughter does not get to have the celebration and the recognition of walking across the stage. Her family coming from across the US to share in the joy and pride of seeing our special education warrior celebrating her biggest accomplishment this far. Working our tails off as essential employees while still caring for those that can not leave the home."

**Alisha Arial-Marie Martin:** "Seeing the joy taken from multiple age ranges from kids who can't be in school or graduate play with friends or go to the play grounds, the essential workers killing themselves to meet the demands being asked at this time looking for appreciation and trying to make a living, the non essentials that have been just kicked to the side and cut from the places they depended on to survive and can't make a living, to the seniors that can't make it out to take care of their needs and struggling. All of us having to live in fear never knowing what the next day may bring or what change is next when we're all adapting the best we can we're all in this together. It's amazing to see so many of us come together with support but also so much sadness with the true colors of others and the harsh reality of trying to adapt to something that almost feels unadaptable life is not the same but just hope one day it will be all we can do is hope."

**Charles Gundry:** "The hardest thing for me has been seeing 70,000 plus Americans die, while people still refuse to wear a mask in public!"

**Sheila Soares:** "Not being able to visit my grandmother and spend time with her because she is in Pine Ridge and they have been on lockdown for a very long time that is causing a lot of emotional distress for her and us the family who is used to spending time with her we love and miss her. I love you Grandma."

**Lynn Sauer Robinson:** "Not being able to get together with friends for game night or Happy Hour. No in person church attendance, scouring the stores for Lysol, antibacterial soap, Clorox wipes and toilet paper...missing friend's graduations, weddings, funerals."

**Mary Lou Sprowle:** "Having to cook

and do Susie Homemaker things ! I NEED to eat out and often..INSIDE a restaurant!"

**Ruby Soth:** "The birth of my daughter a week ago. We had no family or friends to come visit and celebrate with us. Her daddy didn't get to go to the nursery with her for her first shots or first bath. And unfortunately for us she ended up in the nicu and we were only allowed a certain time to see her each day and had to stay masked up. We are thankful she arrived quickly and safely but were robbed of the experience..."

**Em Villarreal:** "The loss of seeing all the seniors with joy of graduating with all their peers. It breaks my heart not being able to see my son, niece, cousin, and many of their peers walk and accepting their high school diploma. Or being able to Celebrate with family."

**Michelle Blanco:** "Hardest is not being able to just pack up for the weekend to go out of town to spend time with my sisters and mom while our kids enjoy one another's company. Missing my nieces an nephew."

**Michelle Tressler Kolkau:** "Not working. I haven't had a job since I was 14. Then I'd say traveling."

**Regina Alcon:** "The hardest thing has been finding my alzheimer/ dementia 90 year old mom, who lives at home and can't be alone, supplies."

**Sonya Calvillo:** "School being out has been the hardest for my family I'm not much on teaching even though are teachers are doing there best for us it's just been hard."

**Sandra Smith:** "Hardest for us is not being able to attend our church and the fellowship with our church family."

**Michael Hommel:** "Missing my son's graduation from Army Bootcamp. As an Iraq War Vet I was really looking forward to being there for such a proud moment."

**Connie Stone Knief:** "Having my Grandson's senior year end like it did and our plans cancelled to see him graduate!"

**Alicia A Jones:** "Watching our 5 year old cry because he never got to tell his friends and favorite teachers bye. The fact that life as we have all known forever came to an abrupt halt. As well as not being able to spend time with those we love. And everything that Alisha Arial-Marie Martin said."

**Nuja Show:** "Feeding our 140 head of horses."

■ See Editorial A3

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
May 14, 1920

**Homer McKinley**, who won the wrestling match in this city Saturday evening over Axel Nelson, left Monday for Concordia, Kansas, where he has a number of matches scheduled. He will return, however, in time for the 4th of July celebration, when he will again be seen in action on the mat.

**Miss Norma Miller** is finishing the term of school at this place, and by her good work in the school room and her very pleasant ways has captivated both pupils and parents. Too bad that she can't teach everywhere at once.

**Almost everyone in the city** who could beg, buy or borrow a ride, took advantage of the day and good roads, to make the trip to Durango and return last Sunday. The highway is in excellent shape, except for a few rough spots here and there.

**Quite a large crowd** out to the dance last Saturday night. Another one will be given in two weeks for the benefit of the ball team. Every one cordially invited.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
May 18, 1945

**All dogs running at large** in Pagosa Springs, are required by ordinance to be licensed. Males \$1.00; Females \$3.00. Licenses to be obtained by June 1st of each year. Take care of your pets now or the marshal will. Herbert Loucks, Town Clerk.

**Mrs. Ila Montroy and daughter Twilah**, expect to move from Pagosa to their ranch home the first of next week. Mr. and Mrs. Daily Hott and R.D. have been going back and forth to their ranch, and this week-end will go for the summer.

**L.D. Goodrich of Crosbyton, Texas**, came in Sunday to complete arrangements for his dry-cleaning plant, to open here on June 1st. Mr. Goodrich has leased the Henderson building adjoining the school ground on Pagosa street and will use the first floor for his business and he and his family will occupy the second story as their home.

**The Civic Club** will sponsor a clean-up day for Hill Top Cemetery on Saturday, May 26th. Anyone wishing to help, please be at the cemetery Saturday morning.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
May 14, 1970

**The Town Board** is assisting efforts for a community clean-up. A town truck, with no charge being made, is available to haul away trash, junk, debris, and other materials. Homeowners may avail themselves of this service by phoning the town hall. Short of coming in and doing the actual work this is just about the limit to what the town can do. Local residents must show a little initiative on their own. How the town looks, how clean it is, how proud we can be of it, depends on us. Why not give the clean-up bit a try? The results are sure to be pleasing.

**The May-June issue of Westerner magazine** features the paintings of Fred Harman. The magazine also carries a full-length feature article on this famous western artist. The cover painting on the magazine is also by Fred Harman. The full-length feature is entitled, "The Cowboy Art of Fred Harman." It tells of his work as a cartoonist when he was drawing the famous Red Ryder and Little Beaver comic strips and of his success now in western oil paintings. Also described is Harman's early life in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County and a description is given of his achievements over the years.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
May 18, 1995

**The Colorado High School Activities Association and International Business Machines (IBM)** have recently announced the spring participants to the 1995 Academic All-State Teams. Throughout the state of Colorado 1939 students earned first-team or honorable-mention recognition. The 1995 Academic All-State members for Pagosa Springs High School include: Jennifer Cordray (first team), Nicole Forrest (first team), Brian Gronwoller (first team), Trish Dach (honorable mention), Shane Lucero (honorable mention), Tobi Rohwer (honorable mention) and Brooke Wedel (honorable mention). To earn academic all-state honors, a student must have exhibited the ability to combine leadership and involvement in extracurricular activities with academic excellence.

## WHADDYA THINK?

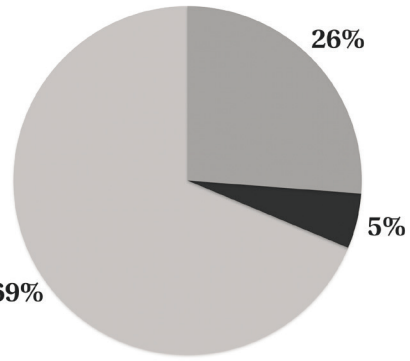
Should short-term rentals be allowed to be open?

Poll results (626 votes)

- Yes. — 26 percent
- I do not know. — 5 percent
- No. — 69 percent

Vote this week online:  
What outdoor activities have you been participating in?

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Steve Wadley

264-8304

Alvin Schaaf

264-8305

Pagosa Springs Town Council

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger

dvolver@gmail.com

Matt DeGuisse

mdeguisse@pagosasprings.co.gov

Madeline Bergon

mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov

Nicole DeMarco

ndemarco@pagosasprings.co.gov

Mat deGraaf

mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov

Shari Pierce

spierce@pagosasprings.co.gov

Rory Burnett

rburnett@pagosasprings.co.gov



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5/5	69	34	-	-	-
5/6	74	32	-	-	-
5/7	74	34	-	-	-
5/8	69	30	-	-	-
5/9	73	28	-	-	-
5/10	71	32	-	-	-
5/11	64	39	R	-	.01"

Pagosa Springs  
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# Editorial

Continued from A2

Roxanna Wise: "Not being able to go to Denver to see my aunt before she passed away. She didn't understand why I couldn't travel."  
 Scott Hoenes: "Seeing the misinformation being spread and so easily digested and then shared further, misinformation in these times is no fun at all."  
 Cassandra Reyes: "Having my senior year ruined, all of the opportunities I was looking forward to vanish before me."  
 Mary Jane Doh: "Losing my job because nobody can help me with my children..."  
 DawnMarie Olson: "Going to Pagosa Springs to see my family."  
 Greg Wells: "Seeing our liberty and economic health being trashed by overzealous politicians guided by misinformation."  
 Doug Robert: "How regardless of the issue, even one as critical as this, stupidity & prejudice will be prominent & proudly displayed."  
 Ty Hart: "Watching Colorado run out of TP and use the constitution as a replacement..."  
 Michelle Cox: "Seeing fear and anger separate our beautiful country even more."  
 Amber Land: "Observing that many trade actual reality for fact-defying information."  
 Shane Valdes: "Not being able to come up to Pagosa to hit the hot springs and visit my mom."  
 Conny O'Connell: "Conflicting information from the top on down. This entire thing has turned into a major debacle."  
 Shana Vasquez-Stewart: "Not being able to visit with my Aunt in the nursing home."  
 Vincent Fortunato: "The loss of my dog."  
 Mistie Bezet Stephens: "Not being able to hug my friends and family."  
 Jeanna Duran: "Not being able to pickup my 2020 Senior grandson at school every weekday! He's the last one, and I genuinely miss seeing him so much!"  
 Misty Carrasco: "The hardest: the racism of the government= let me explain: The stimulus checks were to be for all U.S. citizens to help with the downfall of the covid. Myself and my daughter were both born and raised in Pagosa. I married a man from Mexico. We are in process of him becoming legal

thru a lawyer. We have filed taxes together as a married couple. We pay taxes every year as a married couple. He has an itin. My daughter and I have our socials. We did not qualify for the stimulus check because my husband is not from here. OK understandable. But for my daughter and I. Us and millions of other U.S. citizens were ruled out and did not qualify due to who we chose to marry. That is our punishment. This is supposed to be for helping with the downfall of what is happening in our society. But like I said. We were ruled out. And we make below the income limit."  
 Joan Scott: "Other than a few inconveniences I'm not finding it difficult to self isolate at home. I am grateful for the ability to connect with my sons, grandchildren and friends online and by phone. Thank heaven for Zoom and FaceTime as well as the opportunity to help others by sewing face masks."  
 Holly Ledbetter: "I moved here from New Mexico with my kiddos right before all the restrictions went into place. So adjusting to a new place, trying to get necessities for my family, no job (with everything shut down, that got vetoed). I think my kiddos having no school, or being able to interact with other children, or much of a routine has been the biggest challenge for them most of all."  
 Kathleen Galloway: "Knowing that all our elected officials (other than Trump who donates his salary every year) are continuing to collect their salaries while millions of people have been thrown out of work, small businesses have been decimated, and that the lockdown was not necessary because cases/deaths were based on fraud."  
 Lisa Is: "Watching people ignore the scientists, scholars, and doctors, thinking a failed businessman/reality show host and his sycophants know better."  
 Paula Keller-Dorame: "All the whining, complaining, and speculations that it's a 'Conspiracy'. If it wasn't the 'whole' world I might could agree..."  
 Robert Hagberg: "I miss the opportunities to help out in the community, play with others and dig at Chimney Rock."  
 Jill Murphy Phillips: "Missed my family of course but missed my swim classes at the Healing Waters

more than anything! Waiting for that pool to open!"  
 Kathy McKimmy: "Not being able to travel to go see my kids and grandkids."  
 Marvel Bramwell: "1. Not being able to go to the 24HOUR gym and pool. 2. Knowing that trump fired all the Pandemic team in 2018 and refused to listen to the experts starting in November 2019."  
 Shea Becker: "Missing my family."  
 Traci Mullins: "1. All the local hostility between those who agree/don't agree that this is necessary. 2. People who refuse to wear masks in order to protect others from possible asymptomatic transmission."  
 Rudolph Espinoza: "Staying home and doing what I'm told are safe practices while I read in my letters from my best friend Big H all the fun she's having breaking all the rules. She drives me crazy."  
 Lea Schwalst-Young: "My spouse and I are are living on separate floors of our home as she has to work outside our home. We have no physical contact and speak to each other at the top and bottom of the stairs well. We eat alone and most of the time prepare our own meals and eat seperately. This time in our lives and in our world is the hardest time in our 15 years together."  
 Melissa Havens: "I work at The Rose 5 days a week and miss our family crew and all our awesome customers."  
 Donna Clemison: "I miss live fellowship with my church family."  
 Jim Byrne: "Having to complete all those projects I've started. (Hehe)"  
 Bill Esterbrook: "My grandsons give the best hugs. I miss them and their hugs!"  
 Jeannine Thomas: "Cancelling vacations. And not being able to see my granddaughters."  
 Joe Merola: "Missing our Monday Night group dinners at the Pagosa Roadhouse."  
 Sydney Landreneau: "We moved to Pagosa last year to be closer to my mom in Santa Fe and two cousins and their families in Pagosa. My mother passed away before our moving truck arrived and the virus set in shortly after. I miss being able to spend time with cousins and share hugs."  
 Tony Medrano: "No recreation center."  
 Keena Carstensen: "I'm a 'Hugger'

by nature. It's unnatural for me to see someone I know and not be able to give a big hug. I had surgery just before the Stay at Home began so some people were reluctant to come by to visit with me and give me a hug!"  
 Lorah Beth Jacobson: "School being closed, rodeos being canceled, 4-H put on hold, and not being able to hangout with friends."  
 Frances K. Belarde: "Not going to work where the sunshine of my day starts with the smiles from the beautiful children at Head Start."  
 Terri Andersen: "Definitely not being able to see our granddaughter."  
 Tonya Hughes: "Knowing that gas is cheap enough to take a road trip out to Pagosa Springs from our Tennessee home, and realizing we can't go!"  
 Di AL: "Cancelling our quarterly blood drive. But the good news is we found another location in town and were able to schedule a new one recently!"  
 Amy Gundelach: "Reading completely ignorant, insensitive, selfish comments all over social media. This is serious and so many could care less that people are very sick and dying. Where is basic human caring and dignity in all this?"  
 Stephanie Bramble: "I was at school in New Zealand and the remainder of my school was canceled and I was sent home. After being surrounded by amazing friends everyday to coming home to self quarantine for two weeks then to remain in isolation was incredibly difficult, especially for an extrovert who thrives on social interaction."  
 Gina Boaz: "I was hoping for a time when we all became more united but have seen division instead."  
 Joni Croce Bussoli: "I miss the interaction with friends. I miss going to the store carefree. I miss breathing freely without a mask. I miss going to work and whining about work. I miss me Joni pre March 13th, 2020."  
 Ken Hager: "Just not knowing, so many people with so many opinions about the virus. It's hard to really understand the whole situation."  
 Space doesn't allow for us to print every comment that we received. We appreciate everyone who shared.  
 Terri Lynn Oldham House

## JIM GARRETT

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# Letters

Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but may have been edited for content or style.

## Economy and COVID-19

Dear Editor:  
People and government leaders are caught on the horns of a dilemma: Should we continue to be isolated from one another in order to continue to prevent the spread of Covid19, or should we open up our economy so that people can pay their bills and our country can become productive again?

For Governor Polis and other Democrats, the solution is to make one-size-fits-all rulings that apply to every one in Colorado. It's the typical Front Range mentality that seems to always come down on the side of whatever is good for the Front Range is good for the entire state. Of course, that is utter nonsense. The same rules for Denver do not apply with equal validity in Archuleta County.

For instance, why are churches only permitted to meet with 10 people or less regardless of the size of their sanctuary? If a sanctuary can safely social distance 40 people in their sanctuary then why not let them have 40? How many of our local restaurants will simply be unable to recover from being shut down, perhaps through the entire summer if some of our leaders have their way? How many can survive even if they are permitted to open at only 50 percent of their capacity? Most small business operate on a profit margin that would require at least a 70-75 percent capacity.

I am not advocating throwing the doors open and operating on a business-as-usual basis, but I am saying that wherever an individual business can operate safely, then let them do so. No doubt we'd be pleasantly surprised at the creative ways that business owners will find to make their customers safe.

Then there is the fundamental problem of basic Constitutional rights being violated by government fiat. Where, in our Constitution, is there any provision for violating the fundamental law of our land even in the case of an emergency? Where in our Constitution does it tell us that government can make decisions better than individuals can? Are there laws on the books that permit some of the decisions that have been taken by Governor Polis? Perhaps there are, but if they exist they are not superior law to the Constitution of the

United States. A law that violates the Constitution is an illegitimate law.

This is why we are beginning to see civil unrest in our state and in our nation as people get tired of being told that their unalienable rights are subject to revocation by any governor, mayor, county commissioner or sheriff. At its base, those who are ignoring the Constitutional rights of Americans seem to believe that they are simply smarter than the American people and need to make decisions for them. If this continues, then the American people won't stand for it.

Let's continue to let our more vulnerable older citizens protect themselves, but let us live as free people.

Richard Bolland

## Resume our normal lives

Dear Editor:

Even if you don't agree with President Trump, we're still all Americans. And if many of those same Americans spent as much time coming up with viable solutions for Covid-19 as they did childish complaining about Trump, we would be stronger as a nation. Baseless nonfactual political tirades help no one. Per the CDC, Trump has done a great job overall. Ending travel, closing our borders to people coming in from China and Europe, establishing a quarantine process, and setting up a task force has helped immensely. If the president hadn't taken those unprecedented steps, we'd be in a very different place today.

On January 14, The World Health Organization (WHO) stated that "Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission of the novel #coronavirus (2019-nCoV) identified in #Wuhan, #China". On Jan. 21 the USA identified the first case in Snohomish Washington. Just 10 days later, Trump began shutting down travel to China and declared a National Health Emergency, only to receive condescension from Democrats, China and the WHO. "This is no time for Donald Trump's record of hysteria and xenophobia — hysterical xenophobia — and fear-mongering to lead the way instead of science." Joe Biden, 1/31/2020. The WHO: "We do not recommend travel or trade restriction based on the current information available, as per the anti discrimination principles under Article 3 of the International Health Regulation". 01/30/2020

Today, many of those same people are saying Trump waited too long before taking action. On Jan 20: a day before the first case, Trump assigned Dr. Fauci to begin work on a vaccine and on January 29th, Trump announced the formation of the Covid-19 Task Force. So in no way was the response too slow. Has Trump acted overly optimistic at times, sure, based on the information at the time, most leaders were overly optimistic back in February. Did he say he was not responsible, yes, because he isn't. Wuhan China is where the virus originated. Earth knows this all too well. Yet many Americans would rather side with China just to disagree with Trump.

Governors are now left to decide when and how we come out of quarantine. If we wait until there is a vaccine or cure like many want, there likely won't be anything left to come out of quarantine for. If we rush into this and don't think it through, there will be many additional deaths. I believe for places like Archuleta County, the time has come to begin resuming our normal lives with a few simple modifications. Most of our residents actually depend on the money they make from working. We as Americans need to come together as we lift the "stay at home" orders. It's what makes this country so strong. Our ability to "unite" when faced with adversity. Pay attention to and follow the guidelines. And stay strong America

Barry Marionneaux

## Anti-Semitism alive and well

Dear Editor:

Whereas Anti-Jewish sentiment is low in most parts of our country, that is certainly not the case in New York. According to the Wall Street Journal, New York's Democrat Mayor Bill de Blasio tweeted " My message to the Jewish community, and all communities, is simple: The time for warnings has passed. I have instructed the NYPD to proceed immediately to summons or even arrest those who gather in large groups. This is about stopping this disease and saving lives. Period." However, in New York this often applies to only the Jewish community. Again the WSJ notes that police have been called to arrest Jewish families out for a stroll in public parks, while other families are free to roam at will. Summonses have been issued to Orthodox Jewish families attending funerals, while other larger funerals are allowed to proceed uninterrupted. This anti-Semitic harassment is occurring even though the Hasidic Jewish infection rates are significantly lower than the New York City average. This bigoted behavior by the mayor is even more startling when you look at the crowded subways that occur every day with no harassment or summons to the riders. Thank goodness our mayors in Colorado aren't singling out the Jewish community for harassment because of the coronavirus. So the question must be asked. Why is the mayor of one of America's largest cities so biased against the Jewish community?

Charles Newton  
Highlands Ranch

## I am a patriot

Dear Editor:

I am a patriot; I am an American. I am fourth generation military; I volunteered for combat in Vietnam.

I have fought for my country; I have worked for my country; I have loved my country. I am an American patriot.

I have been sheltering in place and following the guidelines of the scientist and concerned officials during this pandemic because I am a patriot. I care for my community, my neighbors, my country, and I want to do my part in this war against this virus.

To those of you who carry your signs, guns, Confederate Flags and camouflage clothing, threatening those of us who are trying to do the right thing; you are not Americans or the patriots you profess to be, you are traitors to the country you profess to love and call you own. You would sacrifice the health of your neighbors, family, and others for your "personal liberty". No government can tell you what to do you say as you gather in crowded venues without masks willingly passing along the virus to other innocents because you say you cherish "your" freedom and in doing so you soil the flag you wear and say you worship. You are selfish and you are the outliers from the great body of Americans. Go to your dark fringes and corners to beat your chests, rant, and rave among yourselves sharing your conspiracies in your echo chamber of hate and despair

So be on your way and leave the rest of us who love this community called America alone to heal and prosper; to become the envy of the world once again.

William C Wert

## Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.


Please submit to:

PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

e-mail: editor@pagosasun.com


All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- be signed by the author, unless emailed
- include the author's phone number and address
- be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday), email submissions are preferred
- Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.
- If necessary, only one letter in support of a political candidate or issue will be printed each edition.
- Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.
- There is no guarantee letters will be published.
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John 14:27

In light of health concerns for our community, the Pagosa Springs Church of Christ has suspended all public assemblies until further notice. This includes our Bible classes and worship services.

A website you may go to on Sunday for worship at home is <https://polishingthepulpit.com/>. The service will have congregational singing, prayers, communion thoughts, a Bible study with Dan Winkler, and thoughts on giving.

With more time available you might like to spend some of it in studying at home.

- If you are struggling with faith or have questions go to <https://www.doesgodexist.org/>. John Clayton was a former atheist who came to belief in God through science. He was a science teacher specializing in physics and earth science.
- A site designed to study the Bible in a safe environment: <https://www.mathesis.org/>. You may study alone or form a small group.
- In Search of the Lord's Way may be listened to on KWUF radio at 1400 AM radio every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.
- The following programs may be viewed on DISH TV Sunday mornings on channel 3, KCDO:
  - 6:30 a.m. Let the Bible Speak
  - 7:00 a.m. The Truth in Love
  - 7:30 a.m. In Search of the Lord's Way

If you need to talk, please call the church building and we will get in touch with you. As the virus continues to spread please pray for leaders, the workers on the front lines, the sick, those who have lost loved ones, and those working on vaccines and cures. We pray life is back to normal soon.

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## PFPD responds to County Road 500 structure fire

By Pagosa Fire Protection District  
Special to The SUN

On May 6, at approx. 6:22 p.m., an active structure fire was reported on County Road 500 near mile marker 8.

Upon arrival, the first due engine sized up the scene, noting a large metal structure (nonresidential) with smoke and flame showing from the roof area. The first arriving units established a transitional fire attack, then converted to an interior attack as additional resources arrived on scene. The fire was contained to the area surrounding the point of origin.

tained to the area surrounding the point of origin.

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded with one engine, three tenders, two chief cars, one fire marshal vehicle, eight paid staff members and seven volunteers. Mutual aid from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office and Pagosa Springs Medical Center ambulance staged on scene.

The PFPD was on scene for approximately two hours.

The structure was vacant at the time of the fire. The origin and cause of the fire is under investigation.

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# Sheriff outlines effects of COVID-19 on sheriff's office, gives update on jail

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

The impact that the coronavirus pandemic has had on the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) was provided to the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs on May 7.

"It's been extremely hard for us as far as the sheriff's office, primarily because it's a pandemic, it's a health and safety issue," Sheriff Rich Valdez said. "It's not like someone is running down the street with a gun. We know where we'd have to go for that."

The ACSO is in a challenging situation because it is the one who has to enforce any of the public health orders from either Gov. Jared Polis or San Juan Basin Public Health, he explained, adding that it has been a "learning curve" for the ACSO.

Valdez also explained that the ACSO, following the activation of its emergency operations center (EOC), has been involved with multiple other local and regional entities as part of multiagency co-

ordination to discuss best practices in handling the pandemic.

"Everybody played a role and has to play a role in it," he said. "We put our organization into action and started recognizing the resources that we had available within our community so that we had that opportunity to utilize those resources if needed."

When a critical incident is started, 90 percent of available resources are put toward that incident in question, Valdez explained, adding that, at a certain point, resources can be expended quickly.

"We didn't want to get in that position, so what we opted is we started early, we put our resources out there in the front that we knew were available and we pulled everything back that we didn't have to use until we knew we were going to have to use them if a major surge hit the county," he said.

At the same time the EOC was activated, the ACSO began practicing social distancing and having staff work from home who could, he explained further.

"We separated individuals, we started wearing face masks, we started sanitizing. We went into schedules way before the orders actually came into effect," he said. "We wanted to maintain a safe and healthy environment for me and my staff."

The ACSO even began minimizing its self-initiated contacts, Valdez explained further.

Enforcement has also provided its own set of challenges, Valdez added later.

"We are getting inundated with information and some of that information contradicts each other, so we're in the middle trying to vet those and try to make sure that any information that we get out to the public is the correct information," he said.

Valdez noted that the ACSO has even received calls that it should shut down the border to New Mexico.

"Obviously that's not going to happen," he said. "We're not going to shut down the borders. We felt that everything was good. Also, we don't have the authority to shut down borders."

Archuleta County has done research with San Juan Basin Public Health, but "nothing really definitive" has been found in terms of when there could be a surge of cases locally, Valdez explained.

"I think that's one of the big reasons why the county commissioners opted to go ahead and follow the governor's order rather than stay with something more strict, because I don't think they quite had the data as to whether or not we're going to have a surge now, or are we going to have a surge in December?" he said.

The ACSO and the county are anticipating a decline in revenue, Valdez noted, adding that the ACSO is on a hiring freeze.

However, the ACSO is doing well and things are "going great," Valdez explained, adding praise for the citizens of Archuleta County.

"I really believe that by our community coming together and actually honoring the social distancing, and staying at home, and minimizing their contact, and being safe, and washing hands, and wearing

masks and doing all that, I think that's the real big reason why we're only at eight confirmed cases," he said. "The more cases that are out there, obviously the harder it's going to be for us."

## Other updates

Also at the meeting, Valdez gave an update on the construction of a new jail and when the ACSO will be moving into its new office space at 125 Harman Park Drive.

"We're happy to announce that they accepted a bid for our new office space," he said. "The office space construction is in contract right now, and hopefully, they're getting the order to proceed."

Valdez noted that the office space construction would take place starting on May 11.

The jail construction was described as being "on track" by Valdez, who added that, as of May 7, the jail was 83.1 percent completed and would be ready by July 10.

Additionally, Valdez explained that when the ACSO moves in to the new facility in July, the ACSO will get acquainted with the new facility and have any requests given to the contractors.

"Once those fixes are done, we will go to a secure," Valdez said of the facility. "We will start transporting inmates from La Plata County and we will slowly start bringing them back in."

The process of bringing inmates back into Archuleta County will be a challenge as well, as the ACSO does not want to bring 40 inmates into the county all at once, he explained.

"We will bring them in a couple at a time as we start moving forward," he said, adding that all inmates would be in the new secure facility by the end of August or the first part of September.

The staffing levels that the ACSO currently has for the jail is going to be a challenge in regard to making sure the ACSO has three detention officers on duty at all times, as well as for the kitchen staff.

"We got to make sure to see how we can get some assistance in some other staffing areas for the kitchen," he said.

chris@pagosasun.com



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## First confirmed fatality in La Plata County in patient with COVID-19

By Claire Ninde  
Special to The SUN

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) is reporting that a resident of La Plata County has died of COVID-19. This person, an adult, is the first lab-confirmed individual to die of the disease in La Plata County.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of this community member," said SJBPH Executive Director Liane Jollon. "While we have expected more cases, this death is an unfortunate milestone in our efforts to fight this outbreak. This tragic death underscores the urgent need for us to take extra steps to protect residents who are particularly vulnerable to developing more serious illness, including older adults and those who have underlying health conditions."

To prevent further spread of disease and to protect vulnerable people, including older adults and those with underlying health conditions including those with heart and lung disease, pregnant women and

people with diabetes, SJBPH urges everyone to:

- Stay at home. Only leave your home for things such as grocery shopping, getting needed medication at the pharmacy or to going to work.

- If you do leave your home, wear a face covering over your nose and mouth, and practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet away from other individuals.

- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly.

- If you are sick, stay at home.

"We are working with our state and federal partners to limit the impacts of this disease to our community, but we need the public's help as well," Jollon said. "Each and every one of us are responsible for making the important choices needed to slow the spread of this disease and protect the health and safety of everyone in our community."

For the most up-to-date information on how to take precautions against the spread of COVID-19, visit SJBPH's website at: <https://sjbpublichealth.org/coronavirus/>.

## Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

### Thursday, May 14

**Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting.** 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

### Saturday, May 16

**La Plata Electric Association partial annual meeting.** 10:30 a.m. Partial, virtual annual meeting to announce director results and conduct questions and answers. Meeting access details: [www.lpea.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.lpea.coop/annual-meeting). Submit questions for the Q-and-A session by 4 p.m. Friday, May 15, to [comments@lpea.coop](mailto:comments@lpea.coop).

### Tuesday, May 19

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting.** 1:30 p.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting

to obtain the login information.

### Wednesday, May 20

**Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting.** Noon, Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.

**Upper San Juan Library District board meeting.** 4 p.m. Zoom meeting; join us at <https://us-02web.zoom.us/j/79928556999>.

### Thursday, May 21

**Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority Commission meeting.** See town website for participation information.

**Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting.** See town website for participation information.

### Tuesday, May 26

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

**Upper San Juan Health Service District regular board meeting.** 5:30 p.m.



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# Business

## State releases dreary economic and fiscal outlook

By John Finebrock  
Staff Writer

The governor's office has released an economic and fiscal outlook which details how the Colorado economy has been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The economic recession that began in March is unprecedented in both speed and scope. More than 20 million jobs have been lost [nationally] as businesses close and consumers stay home in an effort to slow the spread of the virus," the document reads.

The forecast states that Colorado is "more vulnerable in this recession" because of the state's dependence on tourism and energy.

It also notes that more than 16 percent of workers in the state have filed unemployment claims since mid-March.

The state's General Fund is expected to fall by billions.

"The General Fund revenue forecast was revised down from the March forecast by a total of \$3.4 billion through June 30, 2021 and by \$5.5 billion over the forecast period through June 30, 2022.

"This decline is due not only to the impact of the pandemic-induced recession, but also due

to federal tax policy changes in the CARES act that will reduce the state's income tax collections by more than \$400 million over the forecast period," the forecast reads.

The forecast also notes:

- More than 400,000 Coloradans have filed for unemployment insurance benefits since mid-March.

- Park County has the highest unemployment claim rate in the state, with more than 36 percent of the county's employment base filing for unemployment benefits.

- Lower-paying industries have a higher share of layoffs than higher-paying industries. Industries with average wages less than \$20 an hour represent more than 60 percent of total unemployment claims in Colorado.

- Arts, entertainment and recreation, and accommodation and food services have been "the two hardest hit industries" and represent 44 percent of all unemployment insurance claims in Colorado.

### Oil

"While the COVID-19 pandemic created challenges for the energy sector due to reduced demand, the industry faced a simultaneous

supply shock as Saudi Arabia and Russia flooded the market with oil in efforts to win a price war. These market-disrupting events have driven domestic oil prices to historic lows, even falling below zero for the first time on April 20th as global storage capacity was nearly exceeded, before returning to positive prices in recent weeks," the forecast reads.

The forecast also states:

- New oil well permit submissions were down 96 percent in April compared to last year.

- Colorado oil producers have reduced the number of active oil rigs in the state to eight, down from 33 a year ago.

- "According to a survey by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, regional energy firms estimated that only 61 percent of their competitors could remain solvent for at least one year if prices remain below \$30 per barrel," the forecast states.

### Retail

Retail trade accounts for 5.1 percent of Colorado's gross domestic product and employs 8.9 percent of the state's workforce.

March retail sales were down 8.7 percent from February, the largest monthly decline ever

recorded since the series began in 1992.

In March, retail stores selling auto parts, electronics, clothing, sports equipment and food services were all down, though grocery stores reported increased revenue.

### Small businesses

"There are more than 630,000 small businesses in Colorado (defined as those with 500 or fewer employees), representing 99.5 percent of all businesses and 87 percent of all employees in the state," the forecast reads.

The bank JP Morgan reported that only 25 percent of small businesses have enough cash buffer to last more than two months.

"As of May 1, the federal Paycheck Protection Program had issued \$10.5 billion in loans to about 14 percent of Colorado small businesses. This accounts for 2 percent of the overall share of available loans — more than Colorado's share of U.S. population and GDP," the forecast reads.

The full economic forecast document can be accessed at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vm18HJBU3nT07hdcM50sO44OTnhoH-u/view>.

[john@pagosahun.com](mailto:john@pagosahun.com)

## Business survey results reviewed

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce conducted a survey of our business community to try and assess the economic picture of our community during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in April. During this time, many businesses were furloughing employees, transitioning to work at home, applying for much-needed financial assistance and much more. Following are some of the results of the survey.

A total of 127 businesses responded to the survey. While many more businesses could have answered the survey, it appears that a good cross-section of businesses completed the questionnaire.

Professional services made up the largest number of responding businesses at 16 percent. Lodging facilities came in second at 15 percent, and restaurants, bars and food establishments came in third at 14 percent. Other significant categories responding were recreation/sports and nonprofit organizations, both at 9 percent. Construction, health care and wellness/beauty also had a good showing of businesses responding. Twenty-two percent of the remaining respondents included businesses such as retail, self-employed, work at home, automotive and one-type businesses.

Of the businesses responding, 40 percent have shut their doors for the time being due either to the governor's order or lack of business. Another 39 percent of businesses have a downturn of business of 50-90 percent. While many

of the professional businesses have not had to lay off employees, the tourism-related businesses needed to lay off larger numbers from one to two employees to eight to 10 per business at a time. The same held true for employees that had a reduction of hours to their work scheduling. These results showed a bleak time frame for our community, mirroring many tourists towns in Colorado with a total of 79 percent of responding businesses reducing their business by 50 percent or more, or closing their doors.

An overwhelming 66 percent of the responding businesses applied for the Paycheck Protection Program assistance and 11 percent applied for EIDL assistance. Since then, many of these businesses have been extended that assistance. Of the programs that the Town of Pagosa Springs and/or Archuleta County offered, the most popular program was Take Out Tuesdays. Other important programs or services used have been the Pagosa Outreach Connection/Employee Incentive Program \$200 gift cards, the services offered by the Department of Human Services and the various food pantries.

Of importance to the Economic Recovery Task Force is what businesses are looking for as we recover and what help can they use now. Topping the list now was obviously tax and loan deferrals on a state and local level. Business interruption insurance and more COVID testing also ranked high on the needs list. Areas of concern were "How to let people back into the community safely" and "marketing." Marketing included a number of subsets: What is the plan the community has? We need

to communicate with one voice. Our window of economic opportunity is dwindling — what can we do? In addition, the community would be interested in free advertising opportunities or assistance with advertising for their business. Communicating that we are a safe place — we want to stay that way — and educating our tourists to safe practices is also paramount on the business community's mind.

San Juan Basin Public Health has made available to Archuleta County some signage that requires people entering your business to wear a mask and free masks that your employees can wear or you can hand out. If you are interested in obtaining any of the signage or the free masks, please contact the Chamber at 264-2360 to reserve your supply. We will issue the masks as long as supplies last. We will deliver those supplies to your place of business. There are a lot of dedicated volunteers making masks and resources where you can purchase masks. Contact the Chamber for more information.

We reiterate, if your business is not comfortable opening at this time, don't open. That could be because you don't have sanitation protocols in place, your employees do not feel comfortable coming back to work, you don't feel there is enough business to justify spending the time opening on a full schedule. This is your choice. You can also come back gradually with reduced hours, reduced employees and there are many sanitation guidelines out there for a variety of businesses. Contact the Chamber for more information or visit our COVID website at [www.pagosachamber.com/COVID-19-information/](http://www.pagosachamber.com/COVID-19-information/).

## The waiting game: Statuses of Fourth of July parade, fireworks, and arts and crafts festival to be determined

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

Summer events such as the Fourth of July parade and subsequent fireworks, as well as the Park to Park Arts and Crafts Festival, are up in the air right now due to public health order restrictions.

At a meeting of the Pagosa Springs Town Council on May 5, Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained that the town is going to move forward with submitting an application to the Colorado Department of Transportation for a road closure permit for the parade.

"We are going to proceed as if we're able to put on the July 4 parade and the fireworks, and we are really hoping that we're going to be able to do that," she said. "This year has very much been a wait and see in terms of how we operationalize a lot of these events and programs."

The town is going to have to wait to see what the guidance is from Gov. Jared Polis on whether or not those types of events, and subsequent crowds, can be held and whether or not there will be restrictions in place.

■ See Waiting A11

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# Sanitation district approves purchase of pumps to address lift station problems

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

At its regular meeting on May 5, the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) approved a purchase of \$73,317 for additional pumps for pump stations.

Pumps were previously purchased in December of 2019 and have since been installed, Public Works Director Martin Schmidt explained during the meeting.

Since the installation of those pumps, however, they have seen failures and other issues, Schmidt explained.

The town ultimately got the assistance of its on-call engineer service, RG and Associates (RGA), to further investigate the problem and the town's lift stations, Schmidt explained.

"One of the really good things that came out of this was the pumps we purchased in December were the right pumps," he said.

RGA, through its research, found that a series of things are causing pumps to fail, Schmidt explained.

Currently, staff is looking at prices for swing check valves to replace a ball valve pump control,

he explained.

"That is something that really needs to be done no matter what else we do in this phased process because the current system creates a lot of dead head time," Schmidt described.

According to Schmidt, "dead head time" is where pumps are pumping against a closed valve.

"For any pump system, there is an allowable amount of time that can happen, but because we have two 115 horsepower pumps, pumping in series, that time is shockingly short for our system," he said. "Because we have so much power pushing against the valve, we need to get rid of that ball valve and put in something that opens when sufficient pressure is built."

Other things the PSSGID can do with swing check valves is reprogramming the PSSGID's variable sequencing drives for slower startup and shutdowns, Schmidt added.

Additionally, town lift stations have seen cavitation from an incorrectly sized reducer, Schmidt explained.

"What it's doing is it's destroying the impellers, it's destroying the wear plates," Schmidt said, adding

that cavitation causes main seals to be lost on the pumps.

In a follow-up email on Tuesday, Schmidt described cavitation as being caused by pressure changes in a fluid, which creates bubbles that collapse "violently."

"This collapse causes a shock wave that is strong enough to damage metal. The more rapid the pressure change, the more damaging the cavitation," he wrote. "Cavitation occurs quite a bit when a powerboat accelerates quickly and before it reaches cruising speed. You can see the cavitation bubbles in the water coming off of the back of the prop. It's what usually ruins a boat prop."

Part of the recommendation is to get a pump with an 8-inch inlet into the dry-well location, paired with the pumps purchased in December, he explained at the meeting.

"So, we aren't reducing from an 8-inch pipe down to a 6-inch pipe like we are now. It's a straight 8-inch pipe right into the pump," he said. "The way to do that is to purchase more of the pumps we bought in December."

Rebuilding and trying to fix the current pumps would put the price

within \$10,000 of buying a new pump that hasn't had cavitation and other issues.

Additionally, rebuilding old pumps costs about \$17,000 each, he added later.

"We'll be able to get it here in two to three weeks. If we do a rebuild, we're looking at 20 to 25 weeks out," he said.

According to Schmidt, the additional pumps will solve the cavitation issues in a single train at both lift stations.

"We spent \$56,000 and change in December and because of a few different things, now we're looking at \$73,317 for a pair of pumps," Schmidt said. "If you approve the purchase of these two pumps today, we still have four pump locations that will be running pumps in some state of disrepair and not operating at full ability."

According to RGA's recommendation, the town would purchase those two pumps and then four additional ones, Schmidt added.

The motion to approve the purchase of additional pumps at the cost of \$73,317 was approved via a unanimous vote of the PSSGID board.

chris@pagosasun.com

# Some vacation rentals still operating despite public health order

By John Finefrock  
Staff Writer

Despite a state health order that prohibits it, some vacation rentals are still operating in Archuleta County.

Archuleta County Undersheriff Derek Woodman told The SUN this week that a sheriff's deputy responded to calls of two separate homes that were reported to still be operating as vacation rentals.

He said the sheriff's deputy made contact with parties at the different homes, but did not offer further information.

Woodman added that Archuleta County has more than 700 vacation rentals.

Vacation rentals, homes which are rented out for 30 days or less

at a time, have required a permit in both the town and county since late 2018.

In a PagosaSUN.com online poll asking, "Should short-term rentals be allowed to be open?" 69 percent of respondents said no, 26 percent said yes and 5 percent said "I do not know."

There were 626 voters in the poll.

In an email Monday, Archuleta County Development Services Director Brad Callender explained how the county typically enforces vacation rental violations.

"... we follow the procedures in the nuisance ordinance policy," Callender wrote. "The violator receives a 21 day courtesy notice to correct the violation, then we send a notice of violation, then the

County takes legal action through the County attorney, and that procedure takes several months. We aren't the riot police and we aren't in the eviction business. We aren't going to go door to door and force the violators to throw [their] renters on the street the second we catch a violator, it doesn't work that way. We give everyone every opportunity to comply with the regulations."

Woodman contrasted the difference between vacation rentals out of private homes and out of places like Wyndham Pagosa.

"Like Wyndham, where they're all short-term rentals, but they are technically owned by the individuals that are doing it because they own the weeks that they show up. So that, in our

opinion, doesn't fall in the same realm because there's no restriction on second homeowners," Woodman said.

Pagosa Springs Police Chief Bill Rockensock wrote in an email Tuesday that his department has not received any complaints about vacation rentals operating illegally.

Claire Ninde, director of communications for San Juan Basin Public Health, addressed the issue in an email Tuesday.

"Short-term rentals are not allowed under the current statewide public health orders. We also encourage people to utilize the reporting tool if they believe public health orders are being violated. <https://forms.laplata.co.us/Forms/PHO>," wrote Ninde.   
john@pagosasun.com

# Town sanitation district approves its portion of shared equipment agreement with PAWSD

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) approved its half of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) in regard to the two entities sharing equipment at its regular meeting on May 5.

The IGA is being considered by the PAWSD board at its meeting this evening.

In the past, PAWSD and the PSSGID have had a good relationship with both entities "handshake sharing tools" in the event of an emergency or when something comes up, Public Works Director Martin Schmidt explained.

This applied to personnel and expertise as well, he explained, adding that this IGA formalizes the "handshake agreement."

"There's two big parts to this. One is that we purchased a vacuum

truck. PAWSD has one that is falling apart," Schmidt said, "and so we have something that is of quite a bit of value to PAWSD."

The PSSGID will send an operator for the vacuum truck if it allows PAWSD to use it, Schmidt added later.

According to Schmidt, PAWSD has recently hired a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) engineer who used to work on the PSSGID's lift stations and its other related SCADA needs.

"They have something of value to the GID. These are two big items to point out where we would be able to kind of formally share these bigger value items. It's more than a wrench and a trash pump at this point," he said, adding that the agreement proposes using the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) schedule for equipment rates.

"If there were an emergency, say we borrowed from PAWSD and

then had a major spill where FEMA came in and tried to reimburse some of our expenses, we would already be using the rate they use for reimbursement," he said.

This agreement is a valuable way to continue a relationship with PAWSD, he added later.

"I love to see cooperation and I love to see collaboration and this is a good thing. I'm glad we have that kind of relationship with PAWSD and we can do this," Mayor Don Volger said.

The motion to approve the PSSGID's portion of the IGA with PAWSD was passed unanimously by the PSSGID board.

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# Variance

## Continued from front

the pandemic in Archuleta County began to unfold.

"We were trying to get our head around, OK, what does it look like and when do we reopen our own business?" he said. "When does the hospitality sector come back in Pagosa Springs, and how does it open?"

For example, Cox explained if his business were allowed to open tomorrow, he would not be ready.

"Not just so I can get my orders in to my purveyors or that I can ensure that my place is clean, so we're meeting the new requirements of the PPE [personal protective equipment] and social distancing," he

said. "It's more of, OK, when this does come about, are we prepared and do we have a plan in place?"

This process has given these small business owners guidance to what other businesses that are reopened are currently doing in regard to health and safety practices, Cox noted.

"We know that there is masking required of employees, for example. We anticipate that's what will be required of restaurant employees. In fact, it's required right now for takeout," he said. "We're looking at all of those kinds of rules and trying to understand."

Part of seeing if the variance would make sense for the county

involved engaging PSMC to see if it would have the capacity to handle its normal caseload as well as a possible surge, Cox explained.

According to Cox, PSMC indicated that it could support it with the right type of precautions put into place.

"We know we're going to get visitors this summer," he said. "We started looking at the possibilities of how to set about a set of rules that would allow us to reopen different industry sectors."

A suppression plan has been created for businesses that are looking to reopen, he explained.

That plan includes a list of things that those particular busi-

nesses need to have in place in order to open, but they would also have to self-certify with SJBPH that they understand and are implementing these various safety criteria, he added.

"That's essentially the basis for an audit and enforcement policy," he said. "We're pulling together a plan and a model for Archuleta County which did not exist before thus far."

This variance could allow the county to get ahead of the state in regard to reopening of businesses, Cox explained.

"Really, what we're trying to do in all of these cases is continue to flatten the curve and to ensure that we're protecting public health and staff health as much as possible while also being able to reopen the economy," he said. "That's not set in stone at this point. We may not even get through our process be-

fore the state makes a decision, but we're exploring that opportunity."

Another reason behind this variance is the low number of positive cases in Archuleta County, with that number being eight, Cox added later.

## Concerns

There has been some pushback in regard to this variance request, Cox explained, adding that it has mostly come through social media.

Specifically, the concern raised on social media is that, by opening businesses back up, it could create a situation where more visitors and tourists come into town and increase the chance of spreading COVID-19, he described.

"This is not something that we dispute. We already see visitors coming to town and we don't see any way that this will not happen, and, frankly, for us to move on with

our society, not just in Archuleta County, but overall in the world, we have to figure out how to best combat transmitting it, protecting those who are vulnerable and also allowing business to operate," he said.

The last thing the business owners want is to introduce a virus into the community from a patron visiting their business, Cox explained.

"This is about a pragmatic balance between the necessities of public health and those for economic vitality," he said.

In an interview on Wednesday morning, BoCC Chair Ron Maez explained that the BoCC would want to see what town council decides before holding a special meeting of its own.

For more information on the progress of the effort, watch [www.PagosaSUN.com](http://www.PagosaSUN.com).

[chris@pagosasun.com](mailto:chris@pagosasun.com)

# PFPD

## Continued from A8

Lease shall be construed as creating or constituting a general obligation or multiple-fiscal year direct or indirect indebtedness or other financial obligation whatsoever of the District ...," it states.

The resolution continues, "The term of the Lease shall not extend beyond one year, subject to annual renewal for an aggregate renewal period not to exceed twenty years ..."

The resolution was passed unanimously.

PFPD is using Station 3 at 5508 U.S. 84 as collateral for the lease-purchase agreement, according to PFPD Chief Randy Larson.

## Board of directors

On Tuesday, the PFPD Board of Directors slightly reorganized, gained a new director and said goodbye to another.

Kim Moore and Ron Beckman, who were already on the board, took the oath of office for their new terms.

Moore's new term on the board is two years and Beckman's is three.

LeRoy Lattin was sworn in as a new director for a three-year term.

The board slightly reorganized the roles of its directors.

John Thompson remains chairman.

Jason Webb remains vice chairman.

Outgoing director Ron Peterson has been replaced by Moore as the secretary/treasurer.

Larson provided a statement to The SUN Wednesday morning about Peterson's departure from the board: "Director Don Peterson has been a huge asset to the PFPD Board of Directors. He has served as Treasurer for the past 2 years as well as sitting as the Boards representative to the Archuleta Combined Dispatch Board. Don is also a volunteer with PFPD as a Firefighter and Investigator with the Fire Marshalls Office. I look forward to continuing to work with Don in his capacity as a Volunteer. He will be missed on the Board." [john@pagosasun.com](mailto:john@pagosasun.com)

# Motorcycle deaths up 24 percent despite lower traffic volumes

Special to The SUN

As counties in Colorado transition to Safer at Home orders, more vehicles, including motorcycles, are starting to return to Colorado roads.

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, which serves as a reminder for drivers to watch for motorcyclists as the riding season ramps up. Specifically, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is reminding drivers to use caution when turning at intersections since motorcycles can be hard to see, and use an abundance of caution when passing or following a motorcycle on the roadway.

"Safety on Colorado roadways needs to remain of utmost importance during these challenging times," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "Motorcyclists and motorists alike should be watching out for one another to keep our roadways safe."

Motorcyclist deaths are up 24 percent compared to last year. As of May 7, there had been 26 motorcyclist fatalities in Colorado, five more than the same time last year when 21 had occurred.

In 2019, 103 motorcyclists were killed on Colorado roads, which accounted for 17 percent of all roadway deaths for the year. Motorcycles comprise only 3 percent of vehicles on the road.

CDOT is reminding drivers to use extra caution and follow these recommendations to avoid colliding with a motorcycle:

- Allow extra space when following a motorcycle as they can stop and turn more quickly than other vehicles.
- Allow motorcycles the full width of a lane at all times.
- Motorcycles can be hard to see at a distance, so use extra caution when turning left at an intersection.
- Check your mirrors and blind spots for motorcycles before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- Never drive distracted or impaired.

Motorcyclists are also urged to

take precautions to remain safe on the road by wearing protective gear, obeying the speed limit and never riding impaired. Most motorcyclists who are killed in traffic crashes are not wearing helmets.

CDOT also recommends riders complete Motorcycle Operator Safety Training (MOST) before returning to the roads. Several MOST schools reopened on May 11 with safety measures in place to ensure the health and safety of students and instructors. Class sizes will be limited to 10 students, and motorcycles and helmets will be cleaned thoroughly after each class according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations.

CDOT also encourages motorcyclists to maintain social distancing when filling up at the gas station; use disinfecting wipes to wipe down the gas pump, screen and touchpad; and use a plastic bag when touching the pump. These precautions will help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

# Hot springs not yet allowed to open per state order

## Ski area won't reopen this season

By John Finefrock  
Staff Writer

The hot springs facilities in town can't yet open their pools to the public or to hotel guests, according to Pagosa Springs Town Manager Andrea Phillips.

"We've heard from a lot of people locally about how important the hot springs are to them and their health and wellness routines and their immune systems and their frustrations that it can't be open, and we completely understand that," said David Dronet, managing principal of The Springs Resort and Spa.

Dronet explained that regulations around hot springs reopening are unclear.

"We're operating by the governor's orders and we continue to work with San Juan [Basin Public Health] and others to get clarifications on all the different pieces and make sure we're doing it right, but it changes day by day. So it's — there isn't clarity, let's put it that way," Dronet said.

In a Wednesday morning email, Phillips explained the current health regulations governing hot springs reopening.

"We clarified with San Juan Basin Health Public Health Department staff and their attorney whether hotel guests could use baths/hot springs/pools. They said no-the Governor's Order and the Safer at Home Order prohibits these amenities from being open, even for hotel guests. There is some concern from health officials about how the virus is spread (and

whether water may enhance this spread) and the Governor's Office confirmed with SJBPH that these amenities should not be open. I am not aware of any hot springs in the entire state that are open at this time.

"We understand that the resorts and other businesses in town that have been forced to close or limit activities due to the state orders are struggling financially, but we are required to enforce these orders. They are the law-unless otherwise lifted or amended. Once we received this clarification on Friday morning from SJBPH and their attorney ... our police department took the information personally to each of the three resorts in town in to give them the information. They can open the hotel (in fact, hotels were never required to close by the state) but the baths/hot springs/pools can't be open. We hope that they will abide by these orders with the goal of public health and safety in mind," Phillips wrote.

Jeff Greer, owner of The Overlook Hot Springs, had the following message on Wednesday: "As of today, May 7, we received updated information from San Juan Basin Public Health that all hot springs facilities in Colorado will not be able to open until at least May 28, when the governor's order expires, or we get a local variance. Thanks for your continued patience and remember, tough times don't last, tough people do."

In a follow-up phone call, Greer explained he expects Gov. Jared Polis to reveal updated guidelines

on May 23, not May 28.

"I had all my employees tested for antibodies last week and everybody was negative, according to the testing," Greer said.

Kanaka Perea, marketing director for Healing Waters Resort and Spa, told The SUN they do not know the date they can reopen to the public, but the hotel is currently in operation.

Perea echoed Dronet's comments about the health regulations being vague and unclear.

"For me personally, digging into all of the stuff and going to the governor's website and trying to weave through all of the information, it's hard. I would guess across the board for all businesses. It's something that takes a lot of time and effort and conversation to figure out exactly what's being said," she said.

Perea added that Healing Waters is currently outlining what safety measures and precautions it will take when it is given the go-ahead to reopen.

## Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area President and CEO Davey Pitcher told The SUN Wednesday that the ski area will not reopen this season.

The governor issued an executive order earlier this month that closes all ski areas in the state until May 23.

Asked if Polis came out on May 23 and said ski areas could open and if Wolf Creek would, Pitcher explained it wouldn't and that he's focused on making plans for next winter.

[john@pagosasun.com](mailto:john@pagosasun.com)

# Donations

## Continued from front

precipitate these donations of personal protective equipment, which continues to be hard to get through normal supply channels. While confirmed positive COVID-19 cases are relatively low here in Archuleta County, we are still in midst of a pandemic and are using protective equipment every day. We also need to ensure readiness in the event of

a surge of cases," said PSMC CEO Rhonda Webb, MD. "PSMC is fortunate to be part of a state hospital association that supports its members in this way, and in the case of the MakerLab's donation, we're grateful not only for the financial contributions and donations that funded the equipment, but also the tremendous skill and volunteer labor that went into researching, designing,

testing and manufacturing it."

In total, the CHA delivered 721 boot and shoe covers, 180 isolation gowns, 520 N95 masks, and four one-gallon containers of disinfectant solution. The MakerLab delivered eight PAPR units, an intubation box, as well as 150 face shields through a combined effort of the MakerLab and San Juan Basin Public Health.

# Graduation

## Continued from front

parents of the graduating class states. "We will be recording all of the components of the ceremony over the next few weeks. If we receive permission to do a drive-in style gathering, the class of 2020 and their families can then come together and view the ceremony as a group. An additional benefit of the virtual streaming option is that it will also allow family and friends to view the ceremony at the same time no matter where they are located."

The letter, written by Superintendent Linda Reed and PSHS Principal Sean O'Donnell, indicates that the decision was made after many meetings and webinars, and with feedback from students and parents.

Reed told the Archuleta School District Board of Education Tuesday evening that the district has received the needed permissions to hold the drive-in event on May 30 and is working with a company out of Denver to bring a specialized screen for the viewing.

A time for the event has not

been set.

She added that planning the ceremony has "been completely uncharted territory."

In an email to The SUN, Reed explained that a team at PSHS including Principal Sean O'Donnell, Assistant Principal Marcie Ham, Stewart Bellina and Assistant Superintendent Laura Mijares — worked "round the clock to create a memorable experience for the Class of 2020, while keeping within the guidance and restrictions of the Safer At Home order from Governor Polis and in conjunction with San Juan Basin Health District and the Town of Pagosa Springs. We also held a virtual Town Hall meeting with parents of seniors last Monday to share what we knew and to gather input from them."

"Through this entire process, my heart really goes out to the class of 2020," O'Donnell told The SUN Wednesday, adding that it's a difficult time no one could have predicted and this year's seniors deserve normal. "They deserve the best."

He noted graduation is "such an

important moment everyone looks forward to."

"The time honored tradition of each graduate's name being called and receiving their diploma on stage will be captured on film at the high school," the letter to parents explains. "We will have a professional photographer and also an opportunity for families to take pictures of this tradition. We will be doing this in a controlled manner that meets the appropriate social distancing guidelines."

The letter later states: "The virtual ceremony will not only include traditional components but other features specific to the class of 2020. The recording of the ceremony will be available to all the graduates and their families to keep forever."

"We believe this format will provide the best way to honor the class of 2020 under our current restrictions and guidelines. While this is not the way we wanted it to be, this is the reality with which we must deal. We hope you will join us in making this time extra special for our graduates." [randi@pagosasun.com](mailto:randi@pagosasun.com)

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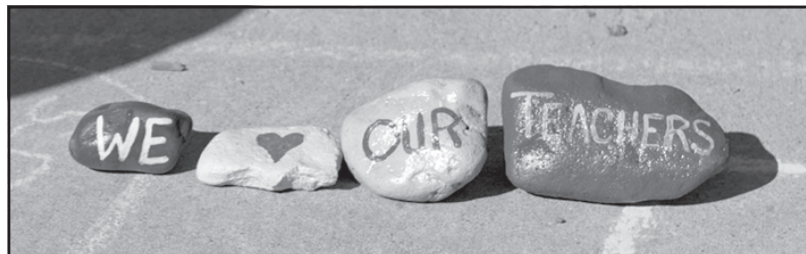


# Education



Photos courtesy Seeds of Learning

Seeds of Learning holds a drive-by teacher appreciation parade on May 8 in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week. The school exterior was decorated with chalk art, posters and painted windows. All the teachers were present and socially distanced themselves for the parade of cars sporting decorations and posters, and bearing gifts.



## PPOS amends current school year calendar

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) will now end its school year on June 26 due to distance learning requirements set out by the state.

The change in the school's instructional days and calendar was approved by the PPOS Board of Directors Monday evening and the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) Tuesday evening.

"As you know, the governor has asked for all in-person instruction to cease for the remainder of the school year, and it took a while to kind of look at what that meant for a year-round school. Our last day of the current calendar for PPOS is actually on Aug. 6. When it was announced that we would be distance learning until the end of the school year, we initially saw kind of a dip in our participation from our families, but we worked hard to kind of regain their attention, but I do feel that it would be hard to remain and keep their attention

all the way until Aug. 6 through the summer," PPOS School Director Angela Reali Crossland told the BOE Tuesday evening.

Crossland informed both boards that PPOS has extra days built into its schedule for things such as snow days, which the school did not use this year, and summer field work, which won't be happening under distance learning.

She told the boards that she realized that, by adding five days to the distance learning calendar in June, PPOS would meet the state's requirements of 160 days and wouldn't be over the needed hours.

"That would allow us to have some time for our staff, actually, to look at different ways of making sure we're meeting our students' needs as well in the fall," she explained to the BOE.

Crossland also noted to both boards that PPOS is fundraising for and planning a series of academic camps that would see PPOS bring small groups of students back into the building when the school is

able, hopefully as early as August.

Her hope, she told the board, is for every PPOS student to go to a themed academic remediation camp that would be equivalent to five school days for groups of 20 students and four staff members.

If unable to begin the camps in August, Crossland told the BOE the camps would be held over breaks during the next school year.

The BOE had to approve the request due to a provision in PPOS's charter with the school district that states PPOS will have one extra school day as compared to the district's schools.

Crossland also informed the board that, when she reached out to the Schools of Choice office with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) about the matter, it moved ahead with approving the waiver.

"I didn't realize that they were going to go forward, but they pushed my request through and it has been approved by CDE as long as you guys are also in agreement with it," she told the BOE.

BOE President Brooks Lindner asked Crossland if project-based learning has become more challenging for the school in the current environment.

"It definitely has been," Crossland acknowledged, explaining that the school has been working to hold onto its mission and is sending materials home for projects that the classes are working on, such as garden kits, math games, water study kits and kits for watching metamorphosis of caterpillars becoming butterflies.

She further explained she created a committee to come up with a set of four distance learning plan

■ See PPOS A10

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## Celebrations



Photo courtesy Jacque Aragon

Megan Foster is a 2020 recipient of the Patty Aragon Memorial scholarship. "I have a cultural history that has shaped who I am today. It is because of my ancestor's strength that I live in this beautiful little town. It is because of their bravery that I am able to attend a college that grew from the very heart of Salt Lake City. Every time I see dirty, worn aprons from my days on the trek, my heart swells with pride for what my ancestors accomplished. I want to continue what they started and respect their memory by exploring new horizons, whether that be through research or travel. Remembering them gives me the strength to continue on through anything that my life throws at me," Foster wrote in her essay, reminding us that cultural history can be a huge part of our future.



Photo courtesy Jacque Aragon

Hailey Griego is a 2020 recipient of the Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic Memorial scholarship. "In my high school career, my team and I have made it to state all four years, but the last one was one of the most shocking things my team and I have been through. After that tragedy happened, me and my team were so upset because we all knew that we could win it all. But after everything that happened, we are all so much closer now. I think that after the disappointment this year at state, it really allowed me to step back and appreciate where I came from. The tradition that I grew up with on the basketball court really has shaped me. Growing up with the same girls and the same goals really allowed me to build a strong, traditional foundation," Griego wrote in her essay, reminding us to appreciate our roots.

## Lewis awarded Chase Regester Memorial Scholarship

By Lisa Scott  
Special to The SUN

Taylor Lewis has been awarded the Chase Regester Memorial Scholarship and will receive \$1,000 for the 2020-2021 academic year.

This scholarship is designed to honor the memory of Charles L. Regester III "Chase" (May 29, 1986-Aug. 2, 2006), who was raised on a ranch and spent his childhood and youth involved in 4-H, rodeos and ranch life. He graduated from Pagosa Springs High School in May 2005 and was pursuing ranching as a career.

Regester loved animals, the great outdoors, his friends and family and had a great sense of

humor and a "whipping and spurring" approach to life. This scholarship was endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindner to honor Regester and his family for living and preserving the history and traditions of the American West. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Russell Jr. added to that endowment.

Lewis has been involved with 4-H since 2011 and has raised and shown swine and steer. She has had numerous successes with her animals by placing within the class a number of times and has been awarded showmanship awards in 2015 and 2019. Active in Future Farmers of America (FFA), she has held the president and vice president positions and has represented the local club at state and national convention.

Writing, "4-H, FFA and rodeo have been a huge part of my involvement, but my interest began from family. My grandparents were ranchers and hay farmers. My parents are ranch managers. To learn the cattle business, my brother and I purchased 12 cows two years ago. It has been tough to keep up, while being in school and sports, but it has been very educational, teaching us responsibility, financing, planning and overcoming obstacles. While it is hard, I also consider it to be fun and inspiring."

After she received the prominent Ralph Outcalt Scholarship, a four-year award, Lewis made the choice to attend Adams State University to study agricultural business.

Many may know Lewis as a



Photo courtesy Michael Pierce

Taylor Lewis

leader on the basketball and volleyball courts, and she was recently named the Intermountain League Winter Female Athlete of the Year for basketball. Taylor maintains a 3.7 GPA, has saved her 4-H livestock sale proceeds and has worked throughout high school to save money for college. While Lewis thinks she will pursue a career as an agricultural loan officer, she is very excited about her future in the agriculture industry and the opportunities that will be presented within this college degree.

This scholarship is designed to support a student pursuing post-secondary education of any variety which can include university, college, community college, technical, business, vocational, agricultural or ranch training program. The basic requirement for any scholarship applicant is that they have participated in rodeo, 4-H, FFA or have agriculture or ranching background and upbringing during their high school years.

## PPOS

Continued from A9

options for the fall to be better prepared, whether for in-person instruction, a combination of distance learning and in-person, and distance learning options.

She further noted she's been in contact with other area schools that do project-based learning and is looking at a regional coalition for the schools to come together and learn from each other.

Both boards unanimously approved PPOS's request to revise its calendar.

"I'm glad we could help them out with that. Those guys are doing a solid job," BOE president Brooks Lindner stated after the vote.

### Auditing services

The PPOS board and the BOE also both approved the hiring of Wall, Smith, Bateman Inc. to provide auditing services for their respective entities.

On Monday, PPOS Business Manager told the PPOS board the firm comes highly recommended, and, on Tuesday, the district's finance director, Mike Hodgson noted references were received from a number of schools.

He also noted that both entities having the same auditing firm makes things "easier for everyone." [randi@pagosasun.com](mailto:randi@pagosasun.com)

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## School district releases summer sports, facilities info

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Archuleta School District (ASD) has released sports and facilities information for this summer.

The document with the information also provides guidance on when more information regarding the fall sports season may be available.

The document on the topic explains, "Due to the current COVID 19 health pandemic, summer sports for Archuleta School District 50 JT will be suspended through June 30, 2020. At that time district leaders will re-evaluate to determine if the restrictions can be lifted. If guidance is received sooner from the state and/or health organizations regarding lifting the restrictions, then re-evaluation will be made at that time."

That includes:

- Hosting summer camps, practices or open gyms at ASD facilities, including Pagosa Springs High

School, Pagosa Springs Middle School and Pagosa Springs Elementary School.

- Attending summer camps, practices or open gyms at other facilities.

- Coaches working in-person with students at any location.

The document further notes that ASD facilities will not be available for use by outside organizations, with that provision also slated to be re-evaluated at the end of June.

### Fall sports

The document notes, "More information will be posted on the school websites on July 1, 2020 regarding fall sports and activities. However, due to current health and safety regulations no students will be allowed to attend, practice, or participate in any way until they have a completed physical."

Physicals, the document notes, are good for 365 days from the date

See Summer A11

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# Sports

## TRACK

With spring sports throughout Colorado canceled due to COVID-19, Pagosa Springs High School's senior spring athletes missed out on being recognized for their hard work and contributions. Following is each senior's Senior Night information, provided by Pagosa Springs High School, for the Pirate track and field team.



**Mason Blakemore** ran with the team four years and lettered two years. Plans for next year: working with the US Forest Service this summer then attending the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology. Favorite memory: Breaking my 400 meter PR last year. I broke one minute and ended the race first in my heat with a time of 58 seconds. Thank yous: To my parents and coaches: Thank you for putting up with me and allowing me to compete in the sport. To my teachers: Thank you for understanding when I have been gone for a meet and helping me with figuring out my work. To my teammates: Thank you for helping me make memories and enjoy the last three and a not quite year of track.



**Tay Barker** was on the track and field team for four years. Plans after graduation: will be taking a gap year but plans to attend a trade school. Favorite memory: My favorite memory is running the 400 for my fastest time ever, 59 seconds. Also spending time messing around with my friends while we wait for our event to come up. Thank yous: To my coaches: Thank you for always pushing me and keeping me accountable to the teams and myself. To my teammates: Thank you for making all four years of my sport seasons great. You guys really made it that much more fun. To my mom: Thank you for always being there to support me in everything.



**Tad Hittle** was on the track and field team for four years. Plans for next year: attend Colorado Mesa University and study biological science. Favorite memory: Watching all the runners suffer while I ate a donut, throwing with my buddies, and listening to Dean's "wisdom." Final words: Good job at State this year! Go Team! We really nailed it at Competition!

## Summer recreation programs canceled due to COVID-19

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department announced on May 7 that its summer recreation programs, including youth baseball for kids ages 7 to 12, adult softball and the Kickin' It During Summer (K.I.D.S.) Camp, have been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's pretty self-explanatory," Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis said during a Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting on May 7. "Limited group activities to 10 people or fewer, it's pretty hard to put on youth baseball, adult softball, even our K.I.D.S. camp."

Usually the K.I.D.S. camp, adult softball and youth baseball run from June 1 through July 31, Lewis explained.

According to Lewis, the K.I.D.S.

camp could have 10 kids, but all kids would have to wear masks for the entire time, as well as the camp counselors.

"With our playgrounds shut down, it's just not worth doing. It doesn't make any sense to force kids to wear masks all day," he said. "To put that kind of stress on counselors to ensure that masks are staying on these children, it's too much. It would be too chaotic."

However, the Parks and Recreation Department is hoping to do some "mini camps" as soon as some of the public health order restrictions are lifted, Lewis explained.

"They will be more like rec programs as opposed to a K.I.D.S. Camp," he said. "We're going to spend the next month kind of coming up with some things, so when things open up, we are prepared to implement some of that stuff."

In place of youth baseball, Lewis suggested baseball camps for when

restrictions are lifted. An adult softball tournament could be added instead of a season, he added later.

"We just have to wait until people can gather a little more," he said. "We'll try and do something because I know it's tough on families and the entire community when rec things get canceled and K.I.D.S. Camp gets canceled."

The town did not receive any applications for the K.I.D.S. Camp, Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained in an email to The SUN on May 11.

"Staff originally opened up registration for KIDS Camp on April 1st. COVID-19 restrictions started in mid/late March. We moved the start of the registration back to April 15th. Restrictions continued, so we moved the date back to May 4th," Phillips explained, adding that this is when it was determined to cancel the camp.

chris@pagosasun.com

## Waiting

Continued from A6

In regard to the Park to Park Arts and Crafts Festival, Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce Director Mary Jo Coulehan explained in an interview on May 11 that the Chamber will be looking to the town for direction on whether or not that event can be held.

"We're just waiting to see what the state is doing and what the town will do," she said. "For us, we're confident our vendors are 12 feet apart, so that's not an issue for us, but it's the flow of traffic and what we can do. So we will just have to look and see."

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## Summer

Continued from A10

of the exam and must be completed by a doctor.

"Sports physicals will not be offered at the schools as they have been in past years. We strongly encourage you to get your physical scheduled as soon as possible because last minute appointments may be difficult to get as the August 10th, 2020 fall sports start date approaches," it states.

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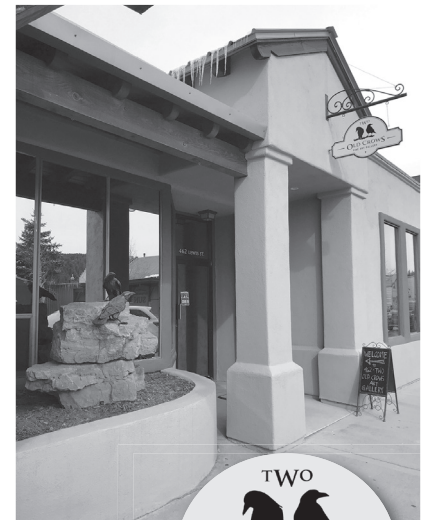
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# Outdoors

## Navajo State Park to open for camping on Friday

By Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Special to The SUN

Camping at Navajo State Park will open Friday, May 15, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is happy to welcome back campers.

CPW wants campers to enjoy their time outdoors, but reminds everyone that social distancing must continue and that guidelines provided by the Colorado Department of Health and Environment and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) must be followed. "We're pleased that campgrounds are open, but our top priority is the safety of our guests and staff," said Cory Chick, CPW's southwest regional manager. "The reopening will closely abide by health department and CDC recommendations."

Here are items campers must be aware of before heading out to one of Colorado's state parks:

- All camping is by reservation only. Check campground information and make reservations at cpwshop.com.
- Bathrooms are open at the park, but showers, laundry and other group facilities will not be open.
- Visitors' centers are not open. Campers can call the park office for information.
- It is advised that you only camp with members of your household. Campsites at Navajo are limited to six people.
- Cabins are not available for rental at this time.
- Individuals must maintain a 6-foot distance from other individuals, including park staff, in the campground.

- A mask should be worn in public areas or when close to others in the campground.
- If you or any member of your family is feeling ill, none of you should go to a state park campground.
- Bring all of your own food from your local grocery store; don't plan on going out to eat at a local restaurant.
- Bring hand sanitizer and other cleaning supplies. Please keep a clean camp and pack out your own trash.
- Do not invite others into your camp; give them a wave, a smile and a healthy hello from a distance.
- Check for park updates at CPW's COVID-19 information page at cpw.state.co.us.

For more information about camping at Navajo State Park, call 883-2208.

## Southern Ute Reservation initiates Stage I fire restrictions

By Lindsay Box  
Special to The SUN

Due to the current high temperatures, dry fuel conditions and occurrence of recent wildland fires, Stage I fire restrictions have been implemented for all trust lands throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Everyone on reservation lands is asked to be very cautious and use common sense with fire this time of year.

Stage I fire restrictions prohibit acts for the general public, commercial operators and industrial

oil and gas operators performing work on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

### Stage I general public prohibited acts:

1. Open burning. Burning of trash and/or yard waste is prohibited.
2. Agricultural burning. Burning of crop land, fields, rangeland, debris burning, slash piles, prescribed burning and weed burning are prohibited.
3. Campfires. Building, maintaining or using a warming fire or

campfire outside of officially designated or developed camp sites is prohibited. The fire restrictions do not include charcoal fires (in suitable containers) for barbecues or fires for sweat ceremonies; however, such fires are not to be left unattended and are to be fully extinguished after use.

4. Fireworks. Possession, discharging or use of any type or fireworks is prohibited.

Commercial and industrial restrictions can be obtained from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Fire Office at 575 County Road 517

or by calling (970) 563-4571.

Anyone violating the provisions of this fire ban may be subject to prosecution outlined in the Southern Ute Indian Criminal Code.

The restrictions became effective May 11 and will remain in effect until conditions improve.

For more information or to report fire restriction violations on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, contact BIA Fire Management, (970) 563-4571, or Southern Ute Police Department, (970) 563-4401.

## Rio Grande National Forest releases new land management plan

By Gregg Goodland  
Special to The SUN

The Rio Grande National Forest announced the release of its new Rio Grande National Forest Land Management Plan, which provides management guidance for the 1.8 million-acre national forest located in south central Colorado. The plan sets the framework for all management activities on the Forest for the next 10 to 15 years.

"The Land Management Plan empowers us to make land management decisions to improve forest conditions and provide clean air, water and forest products to the communities that rely on the Rio Grande National Forest," said Forest Supervisor Dan Dallas. "I am pleased that years of dedicated collaboration on behalf of forest staff, partners and interested parties have allowed us to reach this

important milestone."

In the first three years of implementation, the Land Management Plan will support nearly 1,600 jobs in the recreation, timber and grazing industries equaling \$50 million in labor income. The plan also promotes healthy watersheds that supply clean, abundant water to the San Luis Valley, which supports an agricultural industry worth more than \$500 million.

The plan prioritizes the use of active management to foster sustainable and productive use of the forest. Compared to the 1996 plan, this new plan is less prescriptive and emphasizes flexibility and commitments to working with the public. Management direction has been updated for all plant and wildlife species. The Land Management Plan also recommends 40,052 acres be added to the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Area and 3 miles of river added to the eligible and suitable Wild, Scenic and Recreation river system. Protecting cultural values, including having availability and access to firewood and forest botanical products for use by local community, allowing multiple-use access to the forest and improving recreation opportunities remain key priorities.

The Land Management Plan emphasizes partnerships and citizen science efforts that provide the efficient monitoring necessary to ensure that work done on the ground is meeting current and future needs. The Land Management Plan also recognizes the role of naturally ignited fires on the landscape and encourages them to be used as a tool to restore natural processes, improve forest conditions and protect communities from destructive wildfires.

The final record of decision, also being released, responds to instructions from the objection reviewing official and describes the selected alternative, which has become the Land Management Plan. The Rio Grande National Forest previously published a draft record of decision and a final environmental impact statement, which analyzes the environmental, social and economic effects of the Land Management Plan and lays out management alternatives.

The Rio Grande National Forest Land Management Plan, final record of decision, environmental impact statement and associated documents are available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46078>.

## Logging operations to begin in Jackson Mountain area

By Lorena Williams  
Special to The SUN

The San Juan National Forest, Pagosa Ranger District, will begin logging operations in the Jackson Mountain area this month. This work will reduce hazardous fuels, restore forest conditions and improve forest health. These operations are expected to continue from May into the winter months.

Visitors to this area should expect to see heavy equipment working in the woods and log trucks hauling out from NFSR 037 (Jackson Mountain Road) to U.S. 160 toward Pagosa Springs. Visitors should pay attention to and obey all traffic signs when traveling in or near this area. Please exercise extreme caution when traveling on roads used by logging trucks, which may weigh up to 85,000 pounds.

For additional information, contact Josh Merrill-Exton at 264-1512 or [joshua.merrill-exton@usda.gov](mailto:joshua.merrill-exton@usda.gov).

Currently, all offices on the San Juan National Forest are conducting business and providing services virtually. For more information on the San Juan National Forest, call 247-4874 or visit the forest website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan>.

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## Early Deadlines

for the issue of May 28

**Display Advertising:** Noon, Friday, May 22

**Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:**  
Noon, Thursday, May 21

**Classified Advertising:** Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m.

**Too Late to Classify:** Tuesday, May 26, 3 p.m.

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**Community news.**

The Pagosa Springs SUN  
264-2100

# Structure fire on County Road 551 under investigation

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A structure fire that occurred on County Road 551 is currently under investigation by the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office. The call for the fire came on Tuesday morning around 5 a.m., Pagosa Fire Protection District (PPFD) Deputy Chief Karn Macht explained in an interview on Tues-

day. The PFPD arrived on scene at 5:52 a.m. and found a "fully involved fire showing from all four sides of the structure," Macht described. The Los Pinos Fire Protection District and Archuleta County assisted in putting out the fire, with the fire requiring about 27,000 gallons of water, he added. "We've currently got a water

tender on scene monitoring, making sure there are no hot spots," Macht said. The one individual who was inside the home was able to get out, along with four pets, Macht explained. "He was in the house sleeping. He woke up to the smell of smoke and it getting warm inside. He was able to get out and went down to the neighbor's house to call,"

Macht said. Due to the fire being outside of the PFPD's fire district, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office has taken over the investigation as to the cause of the fire, Macht explained. As of Tuesday, there had been no cause determined for the fire, with Macht explaining that the site was too hot to get into to take pictures. [chris@pagosasun.com](mailto:chris@pagosasun.com)



Photo courtesy Clayton Leonard

A wildfire that started east of Lumberton, N.M., on May 10 has burned approximately 437 acres and is about 45 percent contained. Target containment date for the fire is listed as May 16.

## Lumberton fire close to 50 percent contained, cause of fire under investigation

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

A wildfire that started east of Lumberton, N.M., on May 10 has burned approximately 437 acres and was about 45 percent contained as of Wednesday morning, according to an email from Chama District Forester Mary Stuever. Currently, the cause of the fire is under investigation, Stuever's email indicates. Six residences are threatened by the fire, with one minor structure

having been burned, according to Stuever's email. The email explains that fire activity is expected to pick up with dry and windy conditions. On Wednesday, active burning was expected "in interior pockets producing visible smoke." "Helicopter work will continue on interior pockets that pose potential for creating fire brands. A few resources are being released today. If the line holds through the day, additional resources will be released tomorrow," the email reads.

The target containment date for the fire is listed as May 16. On May 10, evacuation was enacted for the southwest canyon area. Additionally, the fire was one-quarter mile away from Jicarilla Apache tribal lands, Stuever's email describes. As of May 11, firefighters worked to stop the rate of spread of the fire wherever possible and also looked to develop a plan on how to keep the fire small, according to Stuever's email. The email indicates the fire area received sporadic rain on May 11, with no growth on the fire perim-

eter that day. However, fire activity picked up Tuesday "as fuels dried out and winds gusted, with burning in interior pockets of unburned area but no new fire growth on the perimeter of the fire," the email states. Helicopter bucket drops were used to cool off burning materials near fire lines that evening. Eight engines, four hand crews and one helicopter have responded to the fire so far, according to the email. [chris@pagosasun.com](mailto:chris@pagosasun.com)

## Water production up over 4 million gallons compared to last year

By Chris Mannara  
Staff Writer

From May 1 to May 7 of this year, total water production was listed at 15.32 million gallons, a 4.23 million gallon increase from that same time last year.

According to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey, from May 1 to May 7 of this year, the Snowball water treatment plant produced 5 million gallons and the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 10.32 million gallons.

"I think it's more people using more water. They're home and they're gardening," Ramsey said in a phone interview on Tuesday. "We'll know when we get to our sales data to see if sales went up that much. If not, then there's two leaks somewhere."

Pagosa is 2 inches from full. Total diversion flows are 4.5 cubic feet per second (cfs) with the West Fork and Four Mile diversions contributing 3 and 1.5 cfs, respectively.

## Smoke map website available

By Bill Trimarco  
Special to The SUN

Wildfire season has begun here in southwest Colorado. Dr. Mike Remke of the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership is keeping a smoke map and activity website updated and available for all to use.

This site will have information on wildfire smoke in North America and on the smaller local fires that are not big enough for satellite detection or listed on InciWeb. This is a one-stop site for the latest information. Go to <http://sanjuanheadwaters.org/smoke>.

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# Mother's Day

The SUN's Facebook fans spent a variety of ways celebrating Mother's Day.



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# preview

## ARTS & LIFE



PREVIEW photo/Terri House

May 14, 2020

# ‘The Application of Imagination,’ a virtual art auction and concert, to benefit Pagosa Peak Open School

By Alison Beach  
Special to The PREVIEW

On May 22, at 6 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) will host “The Application of Imagination,” a virtual art auction and concert featuring artists and musicians Rain March, Karla Parker Choat, Bill Hudson, Keith Bruno, Alison Beach, Perry and Amy Harper, Lexi Bernstein, Jeanelle Wychesit, June Marquez and Angela Reali Crossland.

This is a Facebook live concert that will be filmed at the school following social distancing guidelines. The concert and art will be posted on the school’s

Facebook page the night of the virtual event at: <https://www.facebook.com/pagosacharterschool>.

Artwork will be “silently auctioned” via our Facebook page during the Facebook live concert. Each piece of artwork will be posted underneath the concert and bids will be taken in the comment sections.

All funds raised will help to further PPOS’s mission to create a community of empowered, lifelong learners by providing a multiage learning environment designed to foster confidence, high academic achievement and the joy of learning through original and meaningful work.

PPOS is a tuition-free, public charter school.

# Helping others find their calling

A friend called and asked my advice. She wanted to know how to help her 24-year-old son, a creative soul who is exceptionally talented. Of course, I felt obliged to share with her what I knew.

From one mother to another, I could relate to the ask for help on the other end of the line.

I told my son about that conversation I had. Maybe I had a new calling. Since he was the recipient of years of my great wisdom, I asked him what he thought.

His response, “I think your friend called the wrong number.”

I remember a time when I sought council when I didn’t know what to do with my children. I’m sure I even received some great advice, although it came at a time when I was developing my selective hearing skills.

I was too much in my own head back then. As a creative type myself, I was busy trying to write my own narrative to hear from anyone else.

I know all about the artist temperament. You can push, but they won’t move until they are inspired. Until then, you’re just provoking them. Push too hard and the artist will dig their heels in deep.

## Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



I told my friend, “I made a lot of mistakes. Don’t make the same ones.”

When our children are young, we want to help and guide them. When they grow up, we have to let go. If we don’t get out of their way, they will never know which direction they are designed to go.

There is nothing wrong with standing in the wings to help, just don’t clip them.

While my Sweet Al and I were having our Bible study this morning, we discussed a passage of scripture where Moses placed his hands upon Joshua. He was passing on his calling, an anointing, a spirit of wisdom.

Joshua received his calling through an anointing that provided him direction. He could have chosen not to lead the Jewish people into the promised land, but then they would have not received

their inheritance, the land given to them.

No matter the label we wear, we have the ability to help others find what can be theirs, by helping them to listen for their own calling.

Why do we push and pull those around us to go in the direction we think they need to go? All we can do is share a vision. It is up to them to take the journey.

I am reminded of a story that a dear friend shared with me long ago. Each year, her family traveled to a specific camping retreat in New Mexico. They would play games and swim in the nearby river. They were creating memories.

Eventually, her children grew up, married and started their own families. It wasn’t long before the next generation was camping at the same retreat, playing in the same field and swimming in the same river. No one had to tell them where to go or what to do. They were provided with a vision, then made their own decisions to go where their hearts took them.

Passing on knowledge comes as a great responsibility. The true test of our effectiveness is not in dictating where a person should go, but

■ See Lane on next page



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Physical address: 457 Lewis Street

Mailing address: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Publisher/Editor  
Terri House, [editor@pagosasun.com](mailto:editor@pagosasun.com)

Assistant Editor  
Randi Pierce, [randi@pagosasun.com](mailto:randi@pagosasun.com)

Reporters  
Chris Mannara, [chris@pagosasun.com](mailto:chris@pagosasun.com)  
John Finefrock, [john@pagosasun.com](mailto:john@pagosasun.com)

Advertising and Circulation Manager  
Shari Pierce, [shari@pagosasun.com](mailto:shari@pagosasun.com)

Head Pressman  
Robert Penton

Assistant Pressman  
Lawrence Castolena

Mailroom  
William Thomas

Classified Advertising/Front Office  
Missy Phelan, [classads@pagosasun.com](mailto:classads@pagosasun.com)  
Shana Young-Gawdun, [classads@pagosasun.com](mailto:classads@pagosasun.com)

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# New Thought service to discuss embracing love

By Lisa Burnson  
Special to The PREVIEW

“Love is within us. Denying love is our only problem. Embracing it is the only answer. Through the power of love, we can let go of past history and begin again. Love heals, forgives, and makes whole.” — Dr. Ernest Holmes.

All are welcome to join New Thought Center for Inspirational Living (NTC) this Sunday, May 17, at 10 a.m. for our weekly service. Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing.

Staying home? Please tune in to our YouTube channel: Pagosa New Thought.

## Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Join us for our weekly Call for Inspiration, featuring speakers across the country, this Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Call (605) 475-4002, Pin 285254#. All are welcome to join New Thought Center this Sunday, May 17, at 10 a.m. for our weekly service.

## Cancellations

Due to public health concerns, we are canceling the following events until further notice:

Stories To Tell Us, scheduled each Sunday at 2 p.m., is canceled until further notice.

Fountain of Youth and Yoga Stretches are canceled until further notice.

# Lane

continued from previous page that they can receive the vision to get themselves there.

Final brushstroke: As mothers, we think we know what our children need, but we don't. I am reminded how Saul offered to give David his armor before going into battle. Never mind that it didn't fit. David had enough understanding of his vision to know he didn't need it.

## Readers' comments

Send your comment to betty@bettyslade.com.

## About us

NTC is a New Thought center based on fostering living a spiritually centered life and promoting the philosophies of the Centers for Spiritual Living and the Agape Centers. NTC honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine.

We welcome local talent to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Have a hand in making a difference. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs,

knowledge and skills.

NTC events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Best Western Lodge (elevator available).

Request a concentrated affirmative mind treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052; or calling (505) 604-5031. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought).



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# An empty tomb with a purpose

By Jan Davis  
Special to The PREVIEW

Jesus led a humble life, but did miraculous things. He changed water to wine, walked on water, healed the sick and raised the dead.

He lived a flawless life, yet loved sinners. Without criticism or judgment, he showed the thief, murderer and adulterer a better way. The Son of God shared food in the homes of outcasts. He related to the common man through stories they understood. He dumbfounded the Pharisees and Sadducees with his wisdom and knowledge of the Word.

Christ suffered in silence as his accusers beat, spit upon and taunted him. Rejected and despised by men, soldiers nailed him to a cross. His followers buried him in a bor-

## A Matter of Faith

rowed grave.

As we celebrate the life of Jesus, we also acknowledge the purpose of the empty tomb. His life for ours, justified by his death.

His burial signified the culmination of his life as the Son of Man. The stone secured the entrance and blackness shrouded his body, but the brilliant light of an angel penetrated the darkness. Christ broke through the gloom of despair and descended into the abyss to forever change the destiny of man-

kind. He left the place of endless torment with the keys of hell and death in his possession.

The sepulcher replaced with a kingdom and throne. Jesus' burial clothes exchanged for a robe of royalty and righteousness as the Son of God seated at his Father's right hand.

Because of Jesus, the empty tomb signifies the beginning and not the end.

"O death, where is your sting? Oh grave, where is your victory? For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." — 1 Corinthians 15:55, I Thessalonians 4:16 (KJV).

I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

# Don't let the kids drive you crazy

By John Lough  
Special to The PREVIEW

One result of the health crisis has been a great many parents getting to spend a lot more home time with their kids. While situations vary around the country, many school systems have ceased classroom instruction for the year. Instead, kids may be doing online classes, while complaining and trying to sneak in as much TV, cellphone and video game time as possible each day.

However, you can help minimize the complaining, the goofing off and your own headaches by taking action to make home time more productive.

A starting point is having a real plan for your child's day. Experts recommended making a schedule sheet to hang on the wall or fridge where you and the kids can see what happens throughout the day and week. In school, kids have set times for math, English or history lessons. Your home time should be the same to help move the learning process forward and minimize arguments.

It's also important to offer choices. Reading time doesn't have to mean picking up the same book or story each day. Give your child a selection to choose from. This

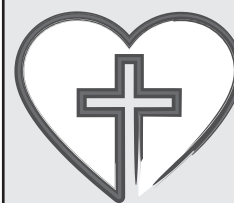
same sort of approach can work for art projects, writing lessons or virtually any subject.

Math studies, for example, might include lessons from a math book some days, but could also include practical math projects around the house. Does your child know how to measure and calculate the square feet in his or her bedroom? Can he or she figure out how to change that recipe to increase or decrease the number of cookies it will make? Then, how about going right from there into a delicious baking session?

The opportunities to learn around the house are endless. Your backyard is probably filled with budding plants, small bugs or places to plant a few seeds, all part of science learning. What about helping your child put together a family history (writing project) or family tree project (research and art)? And yes, there are art projects for most kids, regardless of their age.

Kids are very social creatures and being stuck at home with Mom and Dad (and maybe siblings) for any extended period isn't as much fun as hanging with friends or even being back in school. But with a little planning and effort, parents can help fill up the days in productive ways to help make the time go faster and to minimize the complaining.

"Counseling Corner" is provided by the American Counseling Association (ACA). Send your comments and questions to [ACACorner@counseling.org](mailto:ACACorner@counseling.org) or visit the ACA website at [www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org).



"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

John 14:27

In light of health concerns for our community, the Pagosa Springs Church of Christ has suspended all public assemblies until further notice. This includes our Bible classes and worship services.

A website you may go to on Sunday for worship at home is <https://polishingthepulpit.com/>. The service will have congregational singing, prayers, communion thoughts, a Bible study with Dan Winkler, and thoughts on giving.

With more time available you might like to spend some of it in studying at home.

- If you are struggling with faith or have questions go to <https://www.doesgodexist.org/>. John Clayton was a former atheist who came to belief in God through science. He was a science teacher specializing in physics and earth science.
- A site designed to study the Bible in a safe environment: <https://www.mathetis.org/>. You may study alone or form a small group.
- In Search of the Lord's Way may be listened to on KWUF radio at 1400 AM radio every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.
- The following programs may be viewed on DISH TV Sunday mornings on channel 3, KCDO:

6:30 a.m. Let the Bible Speak

7:00 a.m. The Truth in Love

7:30 a.m. In Search of the Lord's Way

If you need to talk, please call the church building and we will get in touch with you. As the virus continues to spread please pray for leaders, the workers on the front lines, the sick, those who have lost loved ones, and those working on vaccines and cures. We pray life is back to normal soon.

**Pagosa Springs Church of Christ**  
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**Pagosa Family School enrollment is OPEN for all homeschool and private school students.**

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Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-5pm. Find an enrollment form online at [family.mypagosaschools.com](http://family.mypagosaschools.com).

All public school students who wish to join PFS classes can place their name in the lottery for available space during the first week of school in September.



Contact Jane Parker for more info:  
[jparker@pagosa.k12.co.us](mailto:jparker@pagosa.k12.co.us) or call 970-264-2228 x408

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# Going on a bear-sighting expedition

Back in the days when these legs were younger and mountain trails seemed shorter, I spent a lot of time navigating those trails. Seeing wildlife was a big part of the attraction. Former Colorado Game Warden Herb Browning and I were palaver-ing over a cup of black coffee one morning down at the Chimney Rock



## Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Café when the subject drifted onto bears. You have to know Herb knew more about the northwestern part of this county than almost anybody. He also knew more about bears.

"Seen any bears lately?" I queried.

"Ya know, I was up the Piedra last week. Got as far as Fish Creek. Bears? That whole valley must'a been full of bears. Ya could smell 'em."

That was good enough for me. I was going on a bear-sighting expedition. After checking my San Juan National Forest map, cramming some grub and fishing gear into my backpack and cinching up my hiking boots, I started up the Middle Mountain trail. Sooner than I expected, the legs started complaining. After a cursory examination of a sizable bear dollop in the middle of the trail and not seeing any cuff links or other obvious evidence of a candidate for a missing person's report, I slavered down a small can of beans, doffed the backpack, and sacked out, soon matching my snores against the vocal efforts of a nearby screech owl.

The gobbling of a flock of turkeys deserting their perch in search of breakfast informed me that daylight was spreading across the mountains. A can of beans accompanied by a biscuit satisfied my early morning culinary cravings and, with the pack straps draped across my shoulders, down the trail I went, slipping and sliding. The trail was covered with small, marble-like rocks. Maintaining balance required serious effort, but a fall down that slope would have been disastrous.

Finally, I reached the bottom, dropped the pack to the ground, sat down on a nearby log and opened another can of beans. Have you ever noticed how a can of beans sharpens your thinking apparatus?

As I ate, I eyed the nearby bridge carrying the trail across to the north side of the Piedra. On the other side of the bridge and a short distance downstream, Fish Creek dumped into the river. The objective of this hike wasn't far off. And I was already getting leg cramps.

I'd learned a long time ago that on any trail, it was just as far com-

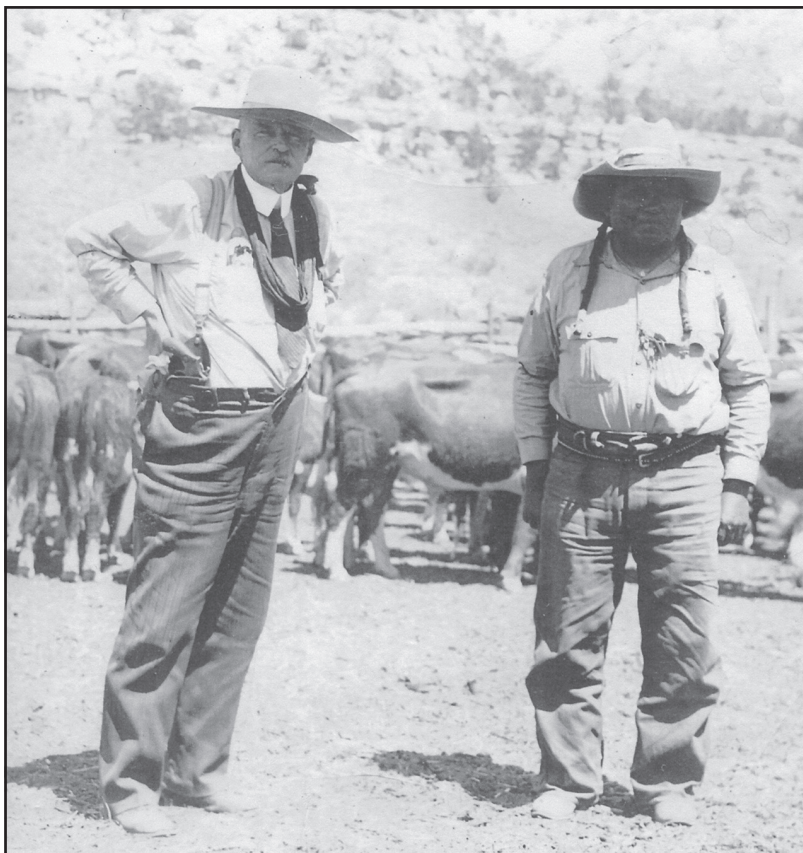


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

This photo well represents the Pagosa Country frontier circa 1920. On the left is Emmet Wirt, a cattleman who operated the trading post on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in New Mexico just south of Pagosa Springs. The other hombre in this picture is Felix (?) Gomez, an Apache leader probably trading with Wirt. The cattle provide a perfect background.

ing home as it was going away. The mental map in my brain showed a dashed line to my right pointing upstream to where the Piedra Road crossed the Piedra River. I knew folks regularly stopped at a parking lot near that bridge and got out of their cars to play in the water.

Pinto bean brainstorm! I found a 6-foot hiking stick, returned the pack

to my back and headed upstream against a current pushing hard against my belt buckle. Finally, after sloshing along with legs protesting every step, I reached the parking lot and caught a ride to town. Looking up as I entered the front door, the wife asked, "How'd it go?"

"OOOH, words fail me," I mumbled on my way into the bedroom.

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Marcia Newth, LCSW

Celia Lowry, LCSW

Josh Bramble, LPC

## Low-income assistance for people with Medicare

By Kay Kaylor  
PREVIEW Columnist

I advocate for residents in extended care and assisted living residences as the region's lead long-term care ombudsman. I also am a Senior Medicare Patrol and State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselor. Information on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

Through Colorado Medicaid (Health First), Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) help some Medicare beneficiaries pay for Part B premiums and, for people with more limited income and resources, for copays and deductibles. Through the Social Security Administration, the federal government offers Extra Help programs

### Area Agency on Aging

for Part D prescription drug plan premiums. According to research, numerous people who could be using these options are not taking advantage of them.

Each year in early spring, the income and asset limits for these programs change based on the Federal Poverty Level. Some details are given in the "Medicare and You" booklet sent to beneficiaries and on the website Medicare.gov. SHIP counselors can also explain

them and assist in applying for Extra Help. The case workers at Archuleta County Department of Human Services on Hot Springs Boulevard screen people for MSP eligibility. The asset limits do not include your primary residence and one vehicle.

The full complexity of these benefits cannot be explained here. For example, specific income and wage amounts are not counted for MSP, so it is worth applying if your income and assets are close to the amounts given in the following summary.

For Partial Extra Help in 2020, the monthly income must be below \$1,615 for individuals and \$2,175 for couples, with assets up to \$14,610 for individuals and \$29,160 for couples. For Full Extra Help, the monthly income for individuals must be \$1,456 and below, with assets up to \$9,360, and, for couples, an income no more than \$1,960 and assets up to \$14,800. Both programs have prescription copays with a maximum of \$6,350 in expenses annually. The Full Extra Help copays are \$3.60 for generic and \$8.95 for brand-name drugs.

MSP has three categories with monthly income limits ranging from \$1,084 to \$1,456 for individuals and \$1,457 to \$1,960 for couples. The asset limits decreased to \$7,860 for individuals and \$11,800 for couples. Those who qualify for MSP automatically qualify for Full Extra Help.

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare. For further information, please call or text 403-2165 or send an email to leadombudsman@sjbaaa.org.

## Senior shopping assistance program continues, volunteers needed

By Cheryl Wilkinson  
PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Senior Center has initiated a senior shopping assistance program during this period of pandemic emergency. Many members of our community are practicing social distancing and voluntary isolation, and access to groceries and prescription medicine has been identified as a critical need. A hotline has been established to connect with a Senior Center volunteer to get the process started. The access number is 422-7084.

Volunteers are needed to help staff telephone lines and to perform the actual shopping tasks. In Pagosa Springs, contact Rod Hubbard at (303) 594-5117 to volunteer.

### Drive-through pick-up meals continue

We are continuing our temporary closing of the congregate dining room due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

In order to continue providing meals, we are offering take-out hot meals and a salad with a drive-up option under the portico at the Ross Aragon Community Center. These meals will be available Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is a \$4 suggested donation for those age 60 and above. If you need to have your meal delivered, please call 264-2167 to see if this option is available in your area.

The cost per meal for the public age 59 and under is \$8.50. The meals include a salad, hot meal, drink and dessert or bread. Our daily menu is posted on our website at ps-seniors.org and is below. Please call 264-2167 to make a reservation for pickup. We are also continuing our

### Senior News

Meals on Wheels program.

There will be no games, classes or presentations during this time. The staff will be available by phone. If you need to speak to a staff member, please call 264-2167.

### The Community Café menu

Thursday, May 14 — Barbecued chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, roasted zucchini, tomatoes and onions, milk, salad and brownie.

Friday, May 15 — Pork andouille sausage, kielbasa and chicken jambalaya with rice, stir-fried okra, milk, salad and cornbread with butter.

Monday, May 18 — Turkey wrap, potato salad, cucumber salad, milk, salad and crisped rice treat.

Tuesday, May 19 — Beef lasagna, cream of zucchini soup, sautéed mushrooms, focaccia bread with butter, milk and salad.

Wednesday, May 20 — Orange chicken with rice, milk, roasted cauliflower snowflakes, salad, green beans with almonds and ginger cookies.

Thursday, May 21 — Pork posole, milk, Spanish rice, roasted Brussels sprouts with sweet chili sauce, salad and flan.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to drive through and pick up a meal at The Community Café at the Senior Center in the Community Center.

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# Alternatives to herbicides for weed control

By Ethan Proud  
PREVIEW Columnist

Weed control and herbicides are synonymous in some circles, though they don't have to be. In fact, herbicides are one tool for weed control, and many different tools can be utilized.

For effective weed management on your property, you should utilize more than one control method. This means blending cultural, mechanical, chemical and sometimes biological controls. Chemical control encompasses both organic and synthetic herbicides. You read that right: Organic does not mean chemical-free. It only means that these chemicals are not synthesized in a lab.

Regardless of whether you choose organic or synthetic, reading the label is of vital importance and home remedies should not be used. Mixing vinegar and Epsom salt as the Internet suggests will only burn down the top portion of a deeply rooted perennial and is not effective. Not only that, but vinegar can also kill beneficial soil microorganisms. Horticultural vinegar (or acetic acid) can be purchased for those wishing to use vinegar and will come with a label attached so you can remain within compliance of the law.

So what if you don't want to use chemicals, whether organic or synthetic? You are in luck. There are three other control methods which can work great together. Hand-pulling and mowing are incredibly effective on annuals, biennials, and short-lived perennials on small acreages. Mechanical controls are not recommended

## Extension Viewpoints

*You read that right: Organic does not mean chemical-free. It only means that these chemicals are not synthesized in a lab.*

for deep-rooted, persistent perennial species such as leafy spurge and Canada thistle. However, with enough diligence, control can be achieved.

Solarization can be effective to control these species as it blocks the sunlight they need to thrive. To utilize this method, take a black tarp and roll it out over the infestation. It will take multiple years to control the species and will kill anything beneath the tarp, so re-seeding is necessary. Monitor the perimeter of the tarp to remove any shoots that may be creeping out from underneath it or sprouting several feet away.

Biological controls (insect herbivores or plant pathogens) may also be employed to suppress an infestation, though few will actually collapse a population. In Archuleta County, two biocontrols are available through the Weed and

Pest Department during certain seasons: field bindweed gall mites and Canada thistle rust fungus. Both of these controls are host-specific and cannot complete their life cycle on another plant. Controls for other weeds are available through the Palisade Insectary.

The last control method is cultural and is by far the most important. It includes replanting native species, rotational grazing and cleaning your gear after leaving an infested site. Skipping this step will mean an ongoing battle with invasive species.

*Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.*

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# Major Wi-Fi expansion at your library plus programs via Zoom and Facebook

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We are delighted to announce a huge addition to your library's Wi-Fi service with the installation a booster that allows Wi-Fi to be used throughout the entire parking lot.

"You no longer have to be parked right next to the building, which is a tremendous upgrade," said Meg Wempe, library director.

The timing of this Wi-Fi expansion is especially welcome now, as so many people have even more need than normal to access the Internet during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I'm very excited about this boost to our Wi-Fi availability for our patrons and our community," Wempe said. "We ask only that when you access Wi-Fi from your car in our parking lot, you keep your windows and doors closed for everyone's safety."

## Other services available now

After a week of experience operating under the state's new Safer at Home guidelines, we want to make sure everyone knows that we have resumed several services to you, mostly outside the building. With attention and concern to community safety, in the first four days of these services we filled eight carts with returns and 281 items were checked out curbside. There were 18 computer appointments.

"We look forward to continuing to provide people with these limited services," Wempe said. "The

## Library News

numbers let us know that our folks are appreciating these resources while we continue to be Safer at Home."

- We offer curbside service outside the front door so that you can pick up materials including holds, tax forms and things you email to us to print for you. These services are available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call the library at 264-2209 when you are in the parking lot so that staff can place the items outside for you and walk away, thus maintaining physical distancing. If you put a hold on something from home, please wait for your usual alert (email or text) before coming to pick it up.

- During those same hours, we also are accepting returns. Look for a cart outside the library door to put your materials — for safety's sake, do not use the drop box at the library or the one uptown at City Market. Using this cart system, we can quarantine returned items and get them ready for the next patron. Please note that returned items will be in quarantine for 72 hours before they are checked off your account and wiped down.

- As well, we have resumed accepting your donations of materials, also Monday through Friday

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They will be handled with the same quarantine process as returns.

- If you do not have a library card but want to use our online resources, you now can self-register. From our website, click "My Account" in the top right. It is the usual login page for current patrons and it now has (in blue) an option to "Register for a new Library Card." There's a short form and then staff will get back in touch with you to give you your login credentials.

- We also are admitting a very limited number of people into specific areas of the building for computer appointments Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you want to make a computer appointment, call the library at 264-2209 or email [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org) to schedule a time. With some possible exceptions, computer appointments will be 45 minutes. This shortened period allows time for staff to clean and disinfect the computers between uses.

■ See Library on next page



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We will limit your reservation to two persons at the same time. The times would be approximately 1/2 hour for each appointment Tuesday through Saturday during business hours.

If you feel that you need more time, then we would be happy to try to accommodate you.

We will require you to wear a mask.

We also would require you to use hand sanitizer, which we will provide.

Please note that we will not be able to provide restroom facilities at this time.

If, after a trial period, the county numbers do not escalate, we will joyfully relax the regulations.

We are all trying to respect and safeguard our customers and appreciate your patience.

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# Library

## ■ continued from previous page

Also note that in compliance with the San Juan Basin Public Health recommendations, you must wear a covering over your nose and mouth, such as a bandanna or homemade cloth mask, reserving hospital-grade masks for medical workers and those who are sick. The old adage of “No shirt, no shoes, no service” is now “No shirt, no shoes, no mask, no service.” We are not able to provide such coverings; you must bring and wear your own.

• Our services may have to work around our HVAC replacement. We'll keep you informed of any interruptions to our operations relating to the installation as best we can, if we get enough notice.

## More on our operations now

1. You can download e-books and audiobooks through our CloudLibrary app on your smartphone or tablet. IndieFlix allows unlimited streaming access to award-winning shorts, feature films and documentaries. By using the online resource TumbleBook Library, you can find children's books and audiobooks.

2. We are not accepting meeting room reservations or hosting any in-person programming at this time. We hope you will join us for some of our virtual programs.

3. We're also happy to help you with tech help over the phone for our online resources.

## Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom

Go on an adventure from the comfort of your couch. Join us via Zoom on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. for our new Dungeons and Dragons group. This program is open to teens and young adults.

Please contact [claire@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:claire@pagosalibrary.org) for details on how to join.

## Family storytimes on Facebook

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Saturday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page.

If you have a Facebook account, you can log in to Facebook and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon (a lowercase f) in the upper left hand corner of the screen. Or you can contact us and we can send you a direct link.

## The census has never been easier

If you haven't already, please respond to the census right now, even if you have not received an

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Your participation is hugely important because it will determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives, directly affect hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for local and regional agencies and projects like health clinics, fire departments, schools, social services like Medicaid, even roads and highways, for the next decade. Archuleta County needs your participation to get our fair share of these federal dollars.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics. The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

## DVDs

“Gordon Lightfoot: Live in Reno” is a televised concert of the five-time Grammy nominee. “Deep Water” is the true story of an amateur in a solo around-the-world sailboat race. “Honeyland” was the most awarded film at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. “Pain and Glory” follows the memories of a seasoned director as he ages (Spanish with English subtitles). “Rosewood” is the true story of a tragedy in a small black town. “Ford v Ferrari” was a best picture nominee at the 2020 Academy Awards.

## Memoirs

“Our House is on Fire: Scenes of a Family and a Planet in Crisis” by climate activist Greta Thunberg and her family explains how and why they began taking global action. “Hustle Harder, Hustle Smarter” is a memoir of Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson's life in the music industry. “Hell and Other Destinations” by Madeleine Albright is a memoir of the former secretary of state's post-government life as an author, professor, businesswoman and activist for democratic institutions. “I'm Your Huckleberry” by Val Kilmer is a memoir by the successful actor. “About Your Father and Other Celebrities I have Known” by Peggy Rowe is a humorous look at the life of a couple whose son went into show business.

## Other nonfiction

“What It's Like To Be a Bird” by David Allen Sibley is a book for birders and nonbirders containing stunning illustrations and extraordinary facts about what birds are doing and why. “Joy at Work” by Marie Kondo and Scott Sonenshein offers stories, studies and strategies to help you eliminate clutter and make space for the work that really matters.

## Large-print westerns

“The First Mountain Man: Preacher's Frenzy” by William W. and J.A. Johnstone and “Dusk Along the Niobrara” by John D. Nesbitt are westerns.

## Mysteries and suspense

“The Paladin” by David Ignatius follows a CIA operations officer taking revenge against the people who betrayed him. “The 20th Victim” by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro is the latest in the Women's Murder Club series.

## Other novels

“Big Summer” by Jennifer Weiner is the story of friendship and forgiveness during a disastrous wedding on Cape Cod. “The Paris Hours” by Alex George centers around a housemaid who saved one of Marcel Proust's notebooks. “All Adults Here” by Emma Straub is the story of a mother to three

■ See Library on next page



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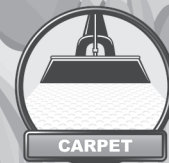
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# Here's how to save the Colorado River

By **Bruce Babbitt**  
Special to The PREVIEW

It is no exaggeration to say that a mega-drought not seen in 500 years has descended on the seven Colorado River Basin states: Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and California. That's what the science shows and that's what the region faces. Phoenix, Denver, Las Vegas and

## Writers on the Range

San Diego have already reduced per-capita water use. Yet they continue to consume far more water than the river can supply.

The river and its tributaries are still overdrawn by more than a million acre feet annually, an amount in consumption equaled by four cities the size of Los Angeles.

To close the deficit, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the states have been struggling to apportion the drastic cuts necessary.

So far, the parties have proceeded by adhering rigidly to historic

■ See Writers on next page

# Library

■ continued from previous page grown children and all of their parenting decisions and problems. "The Mirror and the Light" by Hilary Mantel is the last of the trilogy about the life of Thomas Cromwell that began with "Wolf Hall." "The House of Kennedy" by James Patterson and Cynthia Fagen is a fictional account of the many successes and tragedies in this iconic American family.

### Downloadable e-books

Current New York Times best-seller downloadable e-books are available at our free 3M Cloud Library. Access them by clicking on the 3M Cloud Library icon on the

home page of our website. While there, browse through a multitude of other adult, juvenile and children's books, both bestsellers and classics in many genres.

### Donations

We have resumed accepting your donations of materials on Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are grateful for the generous monetary donation from Susan and Terry Arrington.

### Quotable quote

"These are not books, lumps of lifeless paper, but minds alive on the shelves. From each of them goes out its own voice ... and just

as the touch of a button on our set will fill the room with music, so by taking down one of these volumes and opening it one can call into range the voice of a man far distant in time and space, and hear him speaking to us, mind to mind, heart to heart." — Gilbert Highet (1906-1978), Scottish-American classicist, academic, writer, intellectual, critic and literary historian.

### Website

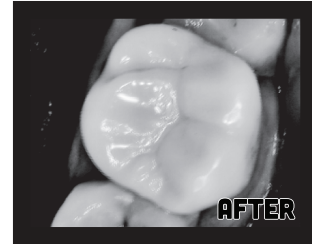
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# Lessons from watering greenhouses

By Daris Howard  
Special to The PREVIEW

With things opening back up a bit from the virus lockdown, I decided it was a good time to go to the nursery to get some flowers for my wife. She loves wave petunias in hanging baskets around our deck.

I went to the nursery where my daughters used to work. Everyone was working feverishly to have everything in full bloom for Mother's Day. Most of them were busy watering. The water had a fertilizer mix that the plants loved, and it helped them to grow quickly. A few were already in bloom, but others were still quite small.

As I watched the workers, I remembered a story my daughter, Heather, told me about one Saturday before Mother's Day. That day was always crazy, and for the employees, it was all hands on deck. I have gone there on those days and found no parking available in the

parking lot, and I had to park out on the street.

The year Heather mentioned was an exceptionally busy one. The place was packed. Heather was assigned to water some greenhouses. But if a customer asked for help, that came first. Heather would hardly get any watering done between customers asking her to lift down the hanging baskets. Heather kept a pole nearby that had a hook on it. With it, she could safely lower the desired basket to the waiting customer.

As soon as she would get back to watering, someone else would ask for a basket. The problem was that the greenhouses took hours to water, and it had to be completed, even if she needed to stay after work. She hoped she wouldn't have to stay that late. She had arrived before 7 o'clock in the morning, and closing wasn't until 8 o'clock at night.

Then an emergency happened, putting an end

■ See Watering on next page

## Writers

■ continued from previous page  
doctrines: first users have absolute rights, though those rights were based on rosy projections of the river's annual flow.

For example, in Arizona, the 6 million residents of Phoenix and Tucson will lose 50 percent of their share before California gives up a single drop.

Nevada, which has a 2 percent share, the smallest of any state, is called on to take more cuts ahead of California, which has the largest share, 29 percent.

Within California, water to 20 million residents in cities will be completely shut off before farming districts adjacent to and within the Imperial Valley take any cuts.

And in the upper basin, the states of Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico are faced with draconian reductions in their entitlements because they must deliver water to the lower basin states.

Brad Udall, a water scientist at Colorado State University, warns that something must give, that we cannot continue with a system that increasingly "violates the public's sense of rightness."

There is a better, more equitable pathway for reducing the deficit without forcing arbitrary cuts. It involves 3 million acres of irrigated agriculture, mostly alfalfa and forage crops, which consume more than 80 percent of total water use in the basin.

By retiring less than 10 percent of this irrigated acreage from production, we could eliminate the existing million acre foot overdraft on the Colorado River, while still maintaining the dominant role of agriculture. Pilot programs in both the upper and lower basins have demonstrated how agricultural retirement programs can work at the local level. What's lacking is the vision and financing to bring these efforts to a basin scale.

Fortunately, there's a precedent administered by the Department of Agriculture: it's the Conserva-

tion Reserve Program, established in 1985 by Congress. It authorizes the Farm Service Agency in the Department of Agriculture to contract with landowners to retire marginal and environmentally sensitive agricultural lands in exchange for rent.

Farmers who join the Conservation Reserve remain free to return the lands to production at the end of the renewable contract period, typically 10 to 30 years.

The national Conservation Reserve currently holds nearly 22 million acres under contracts with more than 300,000 farms. This legislation has strong support from the farming community and in the Congress, which appropriates nearly \$2 billion each year for the program.

With this precedent, it's time to create an Irrigation Reserve Program. To work, it must be voluntary and farmers who participate must be adequately paid for the use of their irrigation rights.

A new Irrigation Reserve on a Basin scale will also require significant public funding. But the mechanism for financing an Irrigation Reserve is already available in existing federal law.

In 1973, faced with deteriorating water quality in the river, the basin states came together and persuaded Congress to enact a law known as the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act.

To fund salinity control projects throughout the basin, the Congress allocated revenues from the sale of hydropower from Hoover Dam, Glen Canyon Dam and other federal dams throughout the basin.

Three hydropower accounts — the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund, the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund and the Hoover Powerplant Act — continue to capture and allocate revenues to basin projects. Congress should now add financing of an Irrigation Reserve to the list of eligible expenditures.

With these two precedents, the

Conservation Reserve Program and the Salinity Control Act, we have the road map to establish a basin-wide Irrigation Reserve. I urge the seven basin states to make common cause and join together to obtain congressional legislation.

*Bruce Babbitt is a contributor to WritersontheRange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively discussion about western issues. He served as secretary of the interior from 1993-2001.*

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for the issue of May 28

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# Pollinators are an important part of gardens

Special to The PREVIEW

A thriving backyard garden requires homeowners to take steps to ensure the garden has the best environment in which to grow and thrive. The right tools and components, including trowels, rakes, soil, amendments, and fertilizer, can help gardeners create beautiful spaces. It's also important that pollinators are made to feel welcome in the garden.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports that one-third of all agricultural output depends on pollinators. The USDA notes that insects and other animal pollinators are vital to the production of healthy crops for food, fibers, edible oils, medicines and other products. Pollinators also are essential for maintaining habitats and ecosystems that many wild animals rely on for food and shelter.

The U.S. Forest Service reports that, without pollinators, the human race and all of the earth's terrestrial ecosystems would not survive. Pollination done the natural way often yields large, flavorful fruits.

Pollinators are make-or-break components of large-scale agriculture, and they're just as important in private home gardens. The Pollinator Partnership, an organization that works to protect pollinators and their habitats across North America, notes pollinators include bees, butterflies, beetles, birds, and bats. These animals travel from plant to plant carrying pollen on their bodies.

The following are some ways to maintain healthy pollinator habitats.

■ See Gardens on next page



Pollinators are important for gardens, whether those gardens are commercial operations or small backyard plots.

# Watering

■ continued from previous page

to the watering and all other activities. A mother started screaming that she couldn't find her 5-year-old son. All employees were enlisted in the search. There was a canal on the far edge of the property, and some went to search there. Even some customers joined in the hunt for the little boy. But he was nowhere to be found.

All sales ground to a halt, and a huge line formed at the checkout. After searching everywhere they could think of that a small child might be, the owner designated two employees to continue the hunt while the others returned to their assigned tasks. Heather went back to watering.

She was watering a section of plants laid out in trays on tables built from pallets. The plants were dense in the trays and covered the area completely. As she was watering, she suddenly thought she heard a child crying. She turned around but could see no one, so she continued to water. But as she did, the crying grew louder.

Finally, she shut off her water and listened. The crying sounded like it was right beside her, but no one else was in the greenhouse. Then, suddenly, she had an idea. She knelt and looked under the table. There was a small boy hiding there. He was soaking wet and shivering.

Heather called another employee and informed her of what she had found. The employee left at a dead run and soon returned with the panicked mother. The mother came, knelt, and looked under the table.

"Timmy," she said, "what are you doing under there?"

"I'm hiding from you because you wouldn't buy me any candy."

No amount of coaxing from the mother could get the boy to come out, and the hole was too small for an adult to get through.

Eventually, the mother said, "Well, this young lady needs to keep watering. I'm going to have to let her do her job. I just hope the fertilizer in the water doesn't make your hair fall out or something."

And with that, the little boy came out from under the table.

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# Tips to prepare for your next big home project

Special to The PREVIEW

The planning process is one of the most exciting parts of a home renovation project, and with social distancing keeping us indoors, now is the time to dream big and get ready.

Whether it's a basement make-over, a pool addition or even building a new house from scratch, here are some tips to get started:

1. Factor in your lifestyle. Think about your priorities and lifestyle — do you work from home without a proper home office? Do you enjoy cooking and entertaining? Is your backyard living up to its potential as an extension of your home? Asking these kinds of questions can help you determine the most beneficial focus for your next project.

2. Educate yourself. Take advantage of this extra time you have to learn about materials, processes and new innovations. You can make smarter purchasing decisions by finding out the answers to key questions, such as: Is this material mold-resistant? How long will it last? Is this a passing fad or will it stand the test of time?

3. Consider sustainability. Products and materials that reduce your carbon footprint don't just help the planet — they're often better for

your wallet, too. When doing your research, look for energy-efficient appliances, windows, walls and more to build a greener home that will last longer and save you money in the long run.

4. Disaster-proof your design. The pandemic has taught us that sometimes the worst can happen. From natural disasters to fires and flooding, we need our homes to offer as much protection as possible. Whether you're planning an extension to your home, pools and spas for your backyard or a custom-built home, insulated concrete forms (ICFs) are a smart investment. An eco-friendly alternative to traditional materials like wood, ICFs are disaster-resilient, designed to withstand wind, fire, tornadoes and more.

5. Budget for smart splurges and savings. Budgeting is one of the most important parts of the planning process because you want to spend your hard-earned money wisely. You'll want to splurge on items that will boost your property value, like energy-efficient features, creating more living space and a solid foundation. Upcycling and repurposing furniture, DIY-ing simpler projects like painting and spending more on nicer hardware but less on cabinets are clever ways to save.

## Gardens

■ continued from previous page

- Consider the soil and types of plants that will thrive in it before choosing what to plant. Fix drainage issues and plant with sunlight in mind.

- Vary the colors and shapes of plants to attract a greater array of pollinators. Plant flowers close to vegetable gardens to attract pollinators.

- Group plants together when planting to more effectively attract pollinators.

- Select plants that flower at dif-

ferent times of the year so that nectar and pollen sources are available year-round.

- Whenever possible, choose native plants.

- Avoid the use of pesticides.
- Provide a water source for pollinators, such as a shallow dish with stones half-submerged for perching.

Pollinators are important for gardens, whether those gardens are commercial operations or small backyard plots. Allow pollinators to share spaces and be mindful of behaviors that can threaten their survival.

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4	8	6	2	9	3	1	5	7
7	6	9	1	8	2	4	3	5
2	4	1	3	5	7	8	6	9
8	3	5	9	6	4	1	7	2
6	5	2	8	1	7	9	4	3
9	8	1	4	3	2	7	5	6
3	4	7	5	6	9	8	2	1

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# Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

## Thursday, May 14

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

## Saturday, May 16

**La Plata Electric Association Virtual Annual Meeting.** 10:30 a.m. Partial, virtual annual meeting to announce director results and conduct a Q-and-A. Meeting access details: [www.lpea.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.lpea.coop/annual-meeting). Submit questions for the Q&A session by 4 p.m. Friday, May 15, to [comments@lpea.coop](mailto:comments@lpea.coop).

**Family Storytime.** 2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

## Monday, May 18

**Pagosa Springs Town Clean-Up Week 2020.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 976 S. 5th St. Clean-up is through May 23. The town will assist residents in cleaning up our community by accepting refuse, at no charge, at the town streets division. If a resident is unable to take items to the shop because of a hardship, please call Town Hall at 264-4151, ext. 251 to coordinate assistance. Cemetery clean-up will be from May 26 through May 29. No dumpsters will be provided at the cemetery. Place your cemetery trash and debris at the nearest roadside for pickup.

## Wednesday, May 20

**Kids Kare Story Time.** 9:30-10 a.m. A YouTube or Facebook Live program for children ages 3-5 years old. Find links to the program at <https://pagosabilechurch.org> each Wednesday. Includes Bible time, songs and lots of activities. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.com).

**Family Storytime.** 10 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't

have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

## Thursday, May 21

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

## Friday, May 22

**The Application of Imagination. 6 p.m.** A virtual art auction and concert to benefit Pagosa Peak Open School. Artwork will be "silently auctioned" via the school's Facebook page during the Facebook live concert. Each piece of artwork will be posted and bids will be taken in the comment sections. <https://www.facebook.com/pagosacharterschool>.

## Saturday, May 23

**Family Storytime.** 2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

## Wednesday, May 27

**Kids Kare Story Time.** 9:30-10 a.m. A YouTube or Facebook Live program for children ages 3-5 years old. Find links to the program at <https://pagosabilechurch.org> each Wednesday. Includes Bible time, songs, and lots of activities. For more information call Frank and Connie Porter at 303-901-5290 or email [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.com).

**Family Storytime.** 10 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't

have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

## Thursday, May 28

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

Submit your calendar items to [editor@pagosasun.com](mailto:editor@pagosasun.com); mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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# The Pagosa Springs SUN

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**Community news.**  
The Pagosa Springs SUN  
264-2100



# Decor ideas to give homes a fresh look this spring

Special to The PREVIEW

Spring is a season of rejuvenation, and that spirit of renewal can take hold inside a home.

Warm weather and longer hours of daylight make spring a perfect time to imagine a home's interior design in a new light. The following are a handful of decor ideas that may inspire homeowners to give their homes an entirely new look this spring.

- **Wallpaper:** Wallpaper fell out of favor years ago, but new styles that aren't so heavily patterned can make for wonderful additions to any room. Large-scale prints can give a room a whole new feel without giving homeowners or their guests the impression that they have stepped back in time. A simple, mural-style floral wallpaper on the walls surrounding a table in a breakfast nook can bring nature inside.

- **Pastel colors:** Nothing embodies the spring quite like pastel colors. If colorful, bright flowers dot the garden in the backyard, homeowners can bring those uplifting pastels inside by painting an accent wall or even adding some brightly colored accent furniture to rooms that could use a lift.

- **Declutter:** Clutter is often con-



Spring is a great time to reconsider home interiors. This spring homeowners can embrace various strategies, both big and small, to give their homes a whole new feel.

quered during spring cleaning sessions, but homeowners who want to create more free-flowing interior spaces can downsize their furniture and/or look for multipurpose features that make it hard for clutter to take over a room. Create more open space in entertaining areas by mounting the television and getting rid of a bulky entertainment center. Create even more space by replacing rarely used end tables with a

storage ottoman where books and magazines can be stored to give a room a fresh, clean look.

- **Accent features:** Sometimes the smallest changes to an interior space make the biggest impression. Replace dated accents like vases and table lamps with newer items that reflect the latest styles and trends. Such adjustments won't break the bank, and they can give rooms a whole new feel.

# Improve storage at home

Special to The PREVIEW

Homes are getting bigger, but it seems like people are still lamenting a lack of storage space.

National Public Radio says the average American home has nearly tripled in size during the last 50 years. Despite that, 10 percent of Americans still need to rent off-site storage, according to a report in the New York Times Magazine.

Self-storage facilities are one of the fastest-growing commercial real estate segments, and the Self Storage Association says there are more than 50,000 storage facilities in the U.S. alone.

The commercial real estate company CBRE Ltd., says there are roughly 3,000 self-storage facilities across Canada, and 65 to 85 percent of self-storage tenants are residential users.

Improving storage at home can be a cost-effective alternative to renting storage space. With these easy tips, homeowners can maximize space immediately.

## Utilize track storage systems

Closets may be plentiful, but if not efficiently utilized, space may still seem lacking. Track closet storage systems often make greater use of closet space than traditional shelf and hanging rod systems. Customizing closets using track

systems or other modifications can improve utility of all closets in the house.

## Invest in storage beds

Storage beds typically feature cubbies or drawers within a platform-style bed frame. It's a practical home storage solution and does not require any building.

## Think vertically

Maximize spaces by looking up and down for storage possibilities. Items that are not used frequently, such as seasonal decorations or travel suitcases, can be stored in high spaces. Shelving on walls can go as high as necessary and be put to use in awkward wall areas, such as in corners or under eaves.

## Invest in storage benches/ottomans

A stopping area inside the front door replete with a storage bench can house shoes, umbrellas, hats, backpacks, and other items, keeping them tidy and out of sight. In living rooms, look for chests or ottomans that are decorative and functional. Store throw blankets or board games inside.

## Recess drawers or shelves

Gain more storage by recessing a chest of drawers into what is called the "knee wall" of homes

that have sloped ceilings in attics and upstairs bedrooms. Utilize these short walls in an efficient manner by sinking drawers or shelves into them, without taking up floor space.

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# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the American white pelican.

They are large and gangly looking, but when the American white pelican (*pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) is in flight, its efficiency in design and skill at soaring is wonderful to watch. Large flocks fly together in the classic V-shaped pattern. A close relative to the coastal brown pelican, the American white pelican appears all white with black flight feathers and a massive orange bill and orange legs. A silver-dollar sized protrusion on the top of the bill signals that the pelican is in full breeding regalia.

Their large beaks come equipped with an expandable pouch that they dip into the water to capture fish or the other aquatic organisms that make up their food source. They do not dive into the water, but feed as they float along on the surface and are sometimes observed working as a team, "herding" their catch into shallow waters where the harvest is made easier.

These pelicans may be spotted on the lakes in Pagosa Country as they migrate to larger lakes to our north for the summer breeding season or in the fall as they migrate southward to coastal wetlands for the winter. There are only about 60 locations where the American white pelican is known to breed, most of which are in the northern Great Plains and in Canada, and in western breeding grounds in central and northern California. They form large colonies on islands in or near freshwater lakes that may be many miles from where they feed.

The long nesting period, 63-70 days, produces a clutch of typically only two eggs. Young chicks, vulnerable to predation, require constant care. Often the first chick out-competes the second for food and only one survives. Parents forage for the up to 150 pounds of food necessary to bring their offspring to maturity.

While still of moderate concern, American white pelican populations have rebounded nicely from low numbers in the 1960s, when DDT pollution decimated many bird species. The major threats to this species are human intrusion on breeding grounds, illegal hunting, and destruction of critical wetland and lake habitats.

For information on future events, check our website, [www.weminuchaudubon.org](http://www.weminuchaudubon.org), and [www.facebook.com/weminuchaudubon/](https://www.facebook.com/weminuchaudubon/).

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Moving about
- 6 Hatteras, for one
- 10 Eden dweller
- 14 Narrow canyon
- 15 Operatic piece
- 16 Sport with mallets
- 17 Feeling contrite
- 18 Special talent
- 19 Knucklehead
- 20 Like military tanks
- 23 Fishing aid
- 24 Seldom seen
- 25 Pizza seasoning
- 27 Treasonous Arnold
- 31 Kitten's plaything
- 32 Buzzing about
- 33 Google product
- 35 Fonda film, "Easy \_\_\_\_"
- 38 Chills and fever
- 40 Smooth feathers
- 42 Rounded roof
- 43 Pancake topper
- 45 Coffee additive
- 47 Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"
- 48 Rainbow goddess
- 50 Place for an idol
- 52 Rice dish, in Rome
- 55 Prime-time time
- 56 Expression of disgust
- 57 Sandler's "Zohan", for one
- 62 Narrow aperture
- 64 Urgent request
- 65 Pixar film about a robot
- 66 Color quality
- 67 Bad look
- 68 Give the giggles
- 69 Class with mats
- 70 Whirl
- 71 Aboveboard

### DOWN

- 1 Taj Mahal city

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
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56				57			58					59	60	61
62			63		64					65				
66						67				68				
69						70				71				

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- 2 Tart-tasting
- 3 Barbershop request
- 4 Slight, in a way
- 5 Change a C to a B, say
- 6 San Francisco sights
- 7 Kind of rug
- 8 Mottled horse
- 9 Diner, perhaps
- 10 Envelope abbr.
- 11 In dire straits
- 12 Visitor from afar
- 13 "Live Free or Die", e.g.
- 21 Prettify oneself
- 22 Letter starter
- 26 Part of a crossword
- 27 Farm calls
- 28 Jittery
- 29 Providing nutrients
- 30 Hog, as a phone line
- 34 Like Elvis or Marilyn
- 36 Actress Stone of "La La Land"
- 37 Bona fide
- 39 Money in Milan
- 41 Zenith's opposite
- 44 Core
- 46 Library transaction
- 49 Paper clip alternative
- 51 Opening word?
- 52 Out of practice
- 53 Block house?
- 54 Stopped a squeak
- 58 Swamp stalk
- 59 Round bullet
- 60 "Born Free" lioness
- 61 Rod attachment
- 63 Genteel affair

### Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

H	A	S	T	Y		T	A	P	A		D	I	S	H		
A	L	P	H	A		A	M	I	D		I	N	T	O		
S	T	O	R	M		G	O	T	H		S	E	A	N		
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A	C	E	T	I	C		S	C	E	N	T					
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H	O	L	Y			M	A	C	E		W	A	D	E	R	

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Mother's Day.

**N L C H U**

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Lunch

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**THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS** has received an application for Preliminary Major Subdivision development application for property located along County Road 119 (Hot Springs Blvd.) approximately 500 feet south of Apache Street. The proposal is to create 10 single-family lots for individual residences that will access County Road 119 from an internal private drive connecting to CR 119 at 2 points. The Planning Commission will consider the application at a public hearing scheduled on May 26, at 5:30p.m. The Town Council will then consider the Preliminary Major Subdivision application at a public hearing scheduled on June 2, 2020 at 5p.m. To comply with the current social distancing recommendations, the respective agendas will include instructions on how to join the meeting via video conference and/or telephone. To access the meeting agenda, staff report and proposed development application, click the Meetings and Agendas tab on the left-hand side on the Town's website home page at pagosasprings.co.gov. You may also view the application on our website under Departments -> Planning -> Pending Land Use Development Projects. The public hearings will be conducted from Town Hall, located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information and anyone wishing to provide comments, please contact the Town Planning Department at (970)264-4151 x221 or attend the public hearing. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

**GENERAL LABORER.** Help wanted- full time. Please call (970)264-5000. Pagosa Cattle Company.

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**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:** The Board of County Commissioners for Archuleta County are seeking a qualified firm or individual to provide Project Manager/Owner's Representative services related to the construction of a new Court Facility. The selected Project Manager will work with the County in the final phases of design and all phases of bidding, contracting, construction and close out of the project. Qualifications must be received no later than 2p.m. on June 4th, 2020 as specified in the "Request for Qualifications-Project Management Services" dated May 15, 2020. Copies may be obtained from County Administrator Scott Wall, (970)264-8302 (or swall@archuletacounty.org). Or it may be downloaded from the County website at https://www.archuletacounty.org/Bids.aspx. A MANDATORY construction site walk-through will occur at 2p.m. on May 21, 2020.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP** winter hours beginning on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 6p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Charlotte (970)903-9690.

**AIKIDO OF THE SAN JUANS** is holding online training for children and adults. Contact aikidopagosa@gmail.com or (970)264-0430 for information on how to join.

**AL-ANON MEETS EVERY TUESDAY** at 6p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org. As of 3/31, our meeting space is temporarily unavailable due to COVID-19 precautions. For updates, please text (303)815-8569. For a list of online and phone meetings, please visit al-anon.org.

**TRADITIONAL ALANON GROUP:** Traditional AlAnon Group meets Mondays, 6p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

**THE PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP** of Alcoholics Anonymous is now meeting online once a day, everyday, Sunday- Saturday. For meeting schedule and information, email aapagosa@gmail.com, or call Val at (970)946-6086.

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**PAGOSA SPRINGS REAL ESTATE AND RELOCATION GUIDE.** The name says it all. Promote your business to your potential customers in 18,000 copies of this resource, which informs readers about real estate, business, education, health care and more in and around Pagosa Springs. These will be distributed locally at Walmart, City Market, real estate offices and other venues beginning in June. It will also be mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosasan.com and explorepagosa.com. Deadline for advertising is May 29, 2020. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosasan.com.

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**ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT** has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under the “Job Postings” icon. Openings for 20-21 school year includes Middle School Therapist; Elementary Library Aide; HS Head Girls’ Basketball Coach; Alternative High School Teacher (Must be certified in a core subject area); Asst. Middle School Football Coach; Asst. Middle School Basketball Coach; and Bus Drivers. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

**PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER** is looking for a **Pre-Service Case Manager Supervisor.** The Pre-Service Case Manager Supervisor is to provide timely review of admissions to observation and inpatient for prior authorization and ensure the requests meet Milliman Care Criteria; in conducting the reviews, the employee must apply his/her nursing education to evaluate and make independent judgments. Also, this position ensures that payers that do not require prior authorization also meet Milliman Care Criteria, evaluates best course of action, and makes decisions following evaluation of options. This position provides feedback to the providers on the status of patients in observation and inpatient. The Pre-Service Case Manager Supervisor will promote the quality and cost effectiveness of patient care using clinical acumen. Additionally, the Pre-Service Case Manager Supervisor will prepare documentation, perform audits of patient records, and assist management as needed. This position will also direct, supervise, and coordinate daily activities for radiology scheduling, Insurance Verification, Outpatient pre-certification and Financial Clearance. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosaspingsmedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

**HOUSEKEEPING, STARTING PAY \$15** an hour. Great work environment, will train. Work alone. We are looking for a part-time/ pull-time housekeeper. 3-5 days a week. All year long. Some weekends and some weekdays. Christmas day, Thanksgiving day, and July 4th OFF (all other US holidays will depend on departures for that day). Hours vary from 9a.m.-4p.m. depending on the work load for the day. English not a requirement. For more information, call (970)264-9204 or email Johnjessharper@gmail.com. Come in to preview our facility and apply at Fireside Cabins, 1600 E. Hwy. 160, Pagosa Springs. (East side of Pagosa just past Hwy. 84 & 160 junction 1 mile from downtown area.) Must be dependable.

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**NEED OFFICE PERSON** to handle Uhaul rental, shuttle, etc. Must have good driving record and lift 40 lbs. Apply at Piedra Automotive, 505 Piedra Rd. or email acct.piedra@centurytel.net.

**ENTHUSIASTIC PLANT PERSON. SEASONAL** help. Part-time to full-time. Must have southwest plant knowledge and like working with people. Apply at Pagosa Nursery, 166 Bastille Dr. Ask for Nancy.

**LANDSCAPING/ CONSTRUCTION LABORER, PART-TIME.** Call (970)398-9136.

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**BOOKKEEPER/ PAYROLL CLERK.** Immediate need for a bookkeeper with QuickBooks and payroll experience to work in busy accounting office. Flexible hours. Submit resume to jjas@jjaccountingsvc.com or by fax to (970)264-4451.

**AT YOUR DISPOSAL. CDL** Class B operator wanted. Stop by 128 Bastille Dr. to pick up an application or email resume to pagosa.office@eagleriverwaste.com.

**POSITION OPEN- PART-TIME HELP** needed M-F at Navajo Trail Laundry. Please apply in person, 75 Navajo Trail Dr.

**PART-TIME HELP FOR LANDSCAPING WORK.** Must be experienced with mowing, weed eating, trimming. Call Eric, 946-2061.

**PATROL DEPUTY.** Archuleta County Sheriff’s office is accepting applications for the position of Patrol Deputy. Applicants must be Colorado P.O.S.T certified. For job description and wage details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff’s Office application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or fax (970)264-1879 or email to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.



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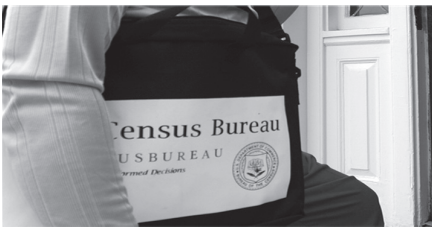
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**EFFICIENCY APARTMENT, NEW,** connected to home. View, off N. Pagosa. No smoking. \$750 plus deposit, all utilities. Cat allowed. mnenergy88@gmail.com.

**RENTAL AVAILABLE MAY 1ST.** 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2,400 sq. ft. home on fully landscaped half acre. 2 minutes from grocery store. Walking distance to many uptown shops. Pagosa Peak views and large deck. Sodded for outdoor recreation with many beautiful trees. Enjoy loft office and extra upstairs living room. Large driveway with 2 car garage. (Rent includes professional snow removal and lawn care.) \$2,200/ month. For inquires call (970)749-0208.

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**SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOMES** lease available now. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 baths. Open floor plan with gas fireplace, oversize 2-car garage. Close to bike path, uptown City Market and rec center. \$1,750/ month includes: water, lawn maintenance, snow removal. Call/ text (512)626-8499.

**STUDIO CONDO-** Unfurnished loft bedroom, 1 bath condo. Available now. \$900/ month. Contact Sunetha (970)731-4344 or sunethaproperties.com.

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH MOBILE** in Vista. \$1,100/ month. No pets, no smoking. Tenant pays all utilities. One year lease required. Fully fenced corner lot, small storage shed on paved street with washer/ dryer. First, last and security deposit required before move in. Background and credit check will be completed. Available June 1st. Call or text (970)903-9268.

**PEACEFUL OVER GARAGE STUDIO.** Has full kitchen and bath, washer/ dryer and yard. All utilities included. Minutes from shopping and hospital. Nonsmoker, dog upon approval. \$850/ month, first, last and security deposit. (970)946-2201.

**39 TEAL CIRCLE,** 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished. 2 car garage, close to lake, \$1,250 a month. Call Ginni, (970)731-2216.

**2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH APARTMENT** for rent. \$1,100/ month includes ALL utilities (except internet/ cable), \$1,100 security deposit. NO pets, NO smoking, shared washer/ dryer in basement. Located 2 miles east of town right off of highway, quiet country like setting. Call or text (970)903-0966.

**DOWNTOWN 1 BEDROOM, EFFICIENT.** No smoking, no pets. Close to everything. First, last, full month security, \$900. 946-0118.

**2 BEDROOM, 1-1/2 BATH** Newly remodeled trailer for rent in Harman Park area. Renter also needs to be able to work weekends on property, 30 hours a month plus rent for trailer. No pets. Must be able to do computer office work as well as outdoor maintenance to property and equipment, some heavy lifting, must have good customer service/ people skills. Only serious inquiries that are willing to work for us. Please call 264-5958 office or allpurposestorage193@gmail.com.

**LONG TERM RV SITES.** Available immediately. Beautiful views, spacious sites, and river access. Laundry on site. \$600/ month plus electric. Call (770)722-7167 or email sanjuanriverbend@gmail.com.

**RETIRED GENTLEMAN LOOKING** for 1/2 bedroom condo, prefer furnished but open to unfurnished? One year lease. Move in date flexible in June. Send information to jwbbaseball1954@gmail.com or text (602)459-3761, Jim.

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**DOWNTOWN APARTMENT. 1 BEDROOM,** 1 bath, furnished, utilities included except Internet. \$1,200/ month rent and \$1,200 deposit. (970)749-4769.

**ABLE TO HELP YOU GET** your house rented owners! Contact Robin Pehle, Independent Broker. Tenants waiting for your house to rent today! Call today! (970)946-0975. Needed in Pagosa Springs or Bayfield, CO.

**FOR RENT- LAKE FRONT HOME:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Detached 2-car garage with loft. No pets. \$1,675 per month plus deposit (970)749-6374.

**DOWNTOWN HOUSE FOR RENT.** 4 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 1-car attached garage. (303)908-6958 or (505)330-6392.

**ROOMS FOR RENT.** Large kitchen, living room, etc. (970)398-0990.

**CUTE 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH** house with deck and fenced yard. On quiet cul-de-sac in Lake Forest area. 1-car garage extra parking area. Washer and dryer, water paid. No smoking, no cats. \$1,500/ month with no pets or \$1,550 with 1 approved dog. (505)659-7006.

**PS FROYO IS ACCEPTING** applications for the position of General Manager. The PS FroYo manager will oversee staff and operations. For a detailed job description, please visit and apply using <https://www.facebook.com/aspenshousepagosa/>. You may also submit your resume by emailing it to [aspenservices@aspenshousepagosa.org](mailto:aspenservices@aspenshousepagosa.org). We are an equal opportunity employer.

**SMALL HOTEL HIRING PART-TIME** housekeeper. Must be available weekends. Pay rate depending on experience. Please call 731-5345.

**VILLAGE INTERIORS CARPET ONE** is hiring! We are looking for energetic additions to our sales force. Must be able to multitask. Sales and QuickBooks experience helpful. Full time. Contact Dan or Jared (970)731-2711.

## YARD SALES

**MOVING SALE MAY 15** and May 16, 8a.m. to 2p.m. 277 Hatcher Circle.

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

## PERSONALS

**IT CAN STOP!** Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

## PETS

**ADOPT FROM THE** Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM.** Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

## LIVESTOCK

**HORSE BOARDING AVAILABLE.** Stall and run, full top quality care. Access to an arena and great trail riding. Close to town. Gelding only. \$400/ month. (970)946-1481.

**OPENING AT HARMONY MEADOWS** Stables. Enjoy nearby trails to National Forest, 5 acres pasture, trailer parking, over sized round pen, easy access, 2 miles from City Market, and top quality hay. Very active trail riders. Clean, safe facility. Offered at \$400/ month. Contact Aurora at (970)903-0329.

## FOR SALE

**TWO USED HERBICIDE SPRAY RIGS** for 4-wheelers up for bid from Archuleta County Weed and Pest. Please view rig details, pictures and bid at <http://archuletacounty.org/bids.aspx?bidID=82>. If interested, follow bid instructions. Bids will be opened and awarded May 29th, 2020. For questions, call Ethan Proud at (970)264-6773.

**ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOMEOWNERS.** Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

**SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS.** We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

**FIFTH-WHEEL TRAILER HITCH** by RBK Industries, 15,000# Pro Series, includes mounting rails and hardware, \$200. Heavy-duty DELTA cabinet shaper with accessories and bits, \$250. Call Mac 731-0306.

**MOUNTAIN BIKE. TREK MARLIN 6.** 2019, less than 100 miles on it. 27.5" wheels. Aluminum frame. Silver. Suspension fork. 2X8 Shimano drivetrain. Internal shift cables and brake cables. Hydraulic disc brakes. Kickstand, mirror, water bottle cage. \$550. 731-4876.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

## HOUSES FOR SALE

## HOUSES FOR SALE

## HOUSES FOR SALE

## HOUSES FOR SALE

**Village Apartments**  
 158 Eaton Drive  
*Multiple apartments available now*

- 1 bedroom - \$700
- 2 bedroom - \$800
- 3 bedroom - \$900

Water & trash included  
**NO PETS ALLOWED**  
**Call Ginni @ 731-2216**

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH,** 2-car garage, near Lake Pagosa. No pets. \$1,350 per month. Available June 1st. Call (970)759-8672.

**APARTMENT UPTOWN. WALK TO REC** Center and shopping. 1+ bedroom. Large deck overlooks the mountains. Furnished. All utilities included including Dish TV and WiFi. Nonsmoking. Nice quiet residential area. \$1,000. References, deposit required. (970)398-0023.

## COMMERCIAL RENTALS

**ON SITE RENTALS** and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007.

**BEAUTIFUL 20X20 MASSAGE STUDIO** with private sink and storage cabinets for lease, \$350. Includes all utilities, cleaning of shared restrooms and waiting area. Ample parking. Quiet and peaceful surrounded by pines. Located uptown near Pine Ridge Nursing. DORA allows LMT's to work privately. Call 731-0527.

**HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE.** Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.


**PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE.** Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

**5 OFFICES WITH RECEPTION.** 4 at 150 sq. ft. 1 at 230 sq. ft. 2,000 sq. ft. of shop/ warehouse space. Call (970)946-0874.

**DOWNTOWN OFFICES AVAILABLE UP-STAIRS** in the Heritage building, 468 Pagosa Street. Starting at \$250/ month. Includes kitchen, conference room, utilities and WiFi. 946-2728.


## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

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## #HUMANS OVER HOUSES

Focusing on our Customers, Clients, Friends & Family is how we approach our 7 Day Work Week. We thrive on referrals and Clients who are now our NextHomies. They can call us Anytime, for anything. The closing of their transactions is not the end of our relationships. Call us First before you choose your Realtor for life! Let Our Family Help Your Family with your Next Home in SW Colorado!



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## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS** for sale. Oxygen bar and retail shop. For more information, call (405)274-3955.

**LOOKING TO PURCHASE A BUSINESS** in the Pagosa Springs area. \$100,000 plus cash flow preferred. No restaurants. (843)813-1556.

## HOUSES FOR SALE

**FSBO. GEORGEOUS COMPLETELY REMODELED** modular home. 3 bedroom 2 bath on corner lot with majestic trees. All new siding, windows, floors and appliances. Every inch has been upgraded. Member of the PLPOA, and a perfect family property. Call (719)648-1562 to schedule an appointment. \$174,900.

**SELLING OR BUYING?** I am INDEPENDENT, I work for YOU! 18 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 [www.peggyandrews.com](http://www.peggyandrews.com).

**JUST REDUCED! DESIRABLE LOG** house. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, living, dining and kitchen are one great room. Single detached garage, asphalt drive to street, and fenced. \$307,500. (480)235-8435.

**STUNNING HISTORIC CABIN DOWNTOWN** on three lots. Log cabin in the center lot, all new everything. Has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,700 sq. ft. Both lots on either side are buildable on Lewis Street. 400K for all three. Hilltop Haven is a legal vacation rental, does great numbers. Sean McMullen (970)264-9653.

[PagosaSUN.com](http://PagosaSUN.com)

## HOUSES FOR SALE

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**AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING WITH** appointment. 8 acre recreational property with 1,542 sq. ft. summer home on Lower Blanco. (505)414-4895.

## RANCHES

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## PROPERTY

**2260 PIEDRA ROAD.** 1/3 acre, \$9,000. Finance available. [hoganpagosa@gmail.com](mailto:hoganpagosa@gmail.com).

**LAND AWAITING YOUR BUILD.** All have city or community water! (Paradise .23 acres) \$16,500! (Arbol 3.15 acres) private hot springs access \$62,000! (Santino .37 acre) national forest access \$25,000! (Kinnikinnik 5.47 acres) water in \$92,700! (Echo 3 acres) mountain views \$105,000! (Loma Linda 4.67 acres) septic and water in, build and 4 week camping OK \$105,000! (Lakeside 2.6 acres) paved access \$100,000! Buying or selling land? Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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## PROPERTY

**FSBO. BEAUTIFUL, QUIET 35** acres in gated community. \$65,000, owner financing available. (970)903-2900 or (970)903-0870.

**VERY NICE DOWNTOWN RIVER** front lot, \$235,000. (970)398-9136.

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS.** Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 [blancoretreat@gmail.com](mailto:blancoretreat@gmail.com).

**OWNER FINANCING. BUY NOW,** build later! (129+ acres) 3 sides bordering national forest \$599,000! (1.23 acres) investment multi mobile lots \$40s! (1.63 acres) electric, ranch views \$20s! (39 acres) gated, river access \$80s. (1 acre) No HOA, electric near \$19,900. (1/8 acre) water, sewer \$18,000! Buying or selling land? Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**Teresa Anderson** ★★★★★  
*"Thank you, Britney, for believing in me and helping me meet my goals! you are truly an amazing realtor!"*

**Liberty Bratt** ★★★★★  
*"What an incredible experience! I went to Next Home with a small budget and a big dream. Through Next Home I found my future homestead and future best friends"*

**Bruce Roman** ★★★★★  
*"Any realtor can drive you around to look. Then there's Britney ultimately she's still there way after the commission checks have been cashed and the last signature on the 900 documents at closing...She will stay by your side ALL THE WAY AND AFTER!!!"*

# TIRE AND FILTER SALE

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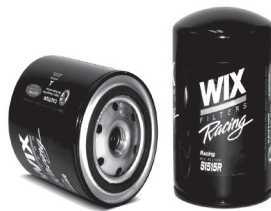
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